

keeping posture with hips and shoulders in plane; and the head neck and spine in knees somewhat flexed.

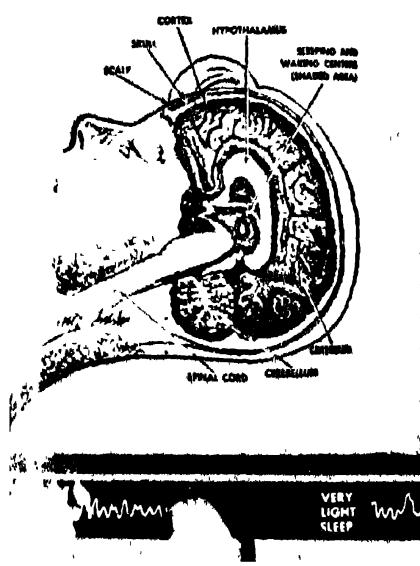
*...ing posture with shoulders falling backward,
balanced and legs extended*

ping posture with shoulders pulled up, neck twisted extended.

*at knits up the ravell'd sleeve of care,
each day's life, sore labor's bath,
at minds, great nature's second course,
ther in life's feast'. Shakespeare.*

corresponding to various stages of sleep, proceeding side of a young woman's head. Each stage is three-second sample.

• illness-sleep cycle in man
• neurons (nerve cells)
• hypothalamus in the lower
brain.

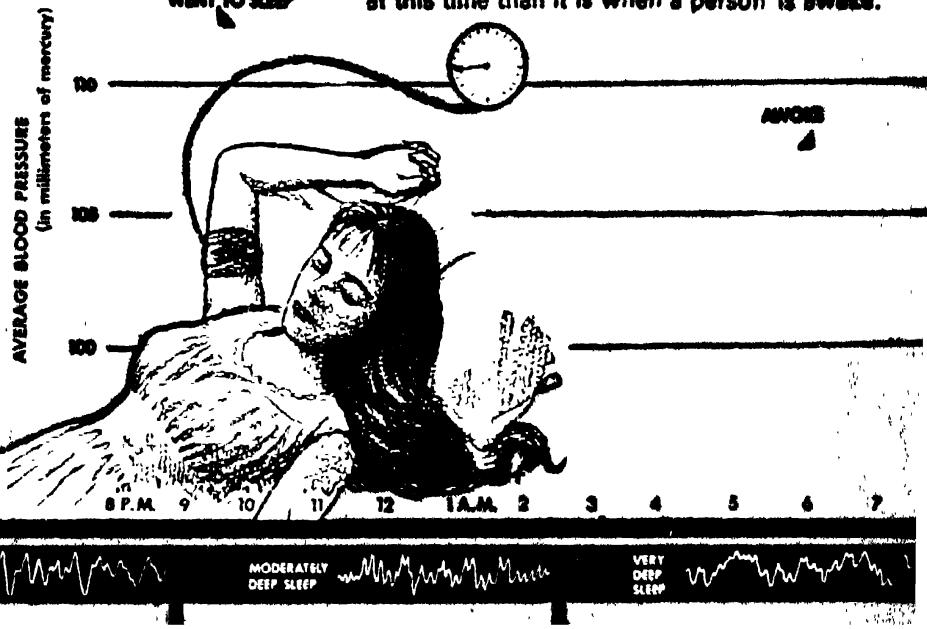


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August 1980

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Letter from the Editor

Annual Number

Dear Readers,

The Annual Number of the COMPETITION MASTER presented to you herewith contains a Special Supplement—a Round-up of various important topics that had come up during the past twelve months. It also contains Subject-Index of the Twenty-first Volume of the CM.

It has been our endeavour all along to make selection of only essential topics and present them in a capsule form.

With this Annual Number we step in the twenty-second year to serve you with dedication and singleness of purpose backed by rich experience we have gained during these years.

We shall feel amply rewarded if the Annual Number fulfils your needs.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Editor

The Competition Master
126, Industrial Area,
CHANDIGARH—160 002

India—A Rudderless Boat

THIS country of continental dimensions, with a soaring population now estimated at 669 millions, is headed by a frail, forlorn and heart-broken woman who was recently struck by a tragedy of massive proportions. As a result of the disappearance from the Indian scene of a young but unique political phenomenon, there is a vacuum which is perhaps impossible to fill. But since Nature abhors a vacuum and since there are countless aspirants for the distinctive position which Sanjay Gandhi occupied because of his dash, dynamism and dynastic symbolism, a tussle for power is imminent. None of these aspirants deserve to be in the line of succession: they are all men of straw, essentially sycophants, flatterers and opportunists. Any shrewd person—and Mrs Gandhi is undeniably shrewd—would not let them hover around the seats of power and influence. But the power-seekers are too hungry.

The dismal fact is that the country is drifting like a rudderless boat. Mrs Gandhi is a woman of character and of firm determination, but the past seven months of her rule indicate that she, too, is becoming a non-performer, lacking the grit to take firm decisions, waiting and watching, almost helplessly, while events seem to be overtaking her. It is true that there cannot be any second Sanjay to impose his will and to command wide influence, almost like the Deputy Prime Minister without holding any ministerial office. He was indeed a symbol of autocracy. But it is by no means certain that with his sudden exit from the scene autocratic trends will vanish and democracy will take its due place.

This precisely is the great national danger—the probability of autocratic forces emerging once again, trampling upon the people's basic rights as if these are matters of little consequence. Certain straws in the wind are already there. If a party organisation—and the Government it forms—is dominated by the superman image of one or two individuals and the rest are like dumb sheep, the essence of parliamentary democracy is eroded beyond repair. Mrs Gandhi could not have been unaware of the

dictatorial style of Sanjay's functioning, and she was purposely allowing him to perform functions which were not truly his. This indicates that the country might as well prepare itself for another, and a much longer, spell of autocracy without restraint of any kind. The affairs of State may all or for the most part, become the subject of personal whims and fancies of the lady at the top. In a true democracy the ruling party functions in constant consultation with the Opposition in Parliament; in India, which has all the trappings and paraphernalia of democracy but lacks the spirit, the ruling party is monolithic and treats the Opposition groups with contempt and disdain—and right under Mrs Gandhi's nose. There is no sign of the "national consensus" of which she used to speak nor of the fair treatment to people holding conflicting opinions. The steamroller tactics seem to be predominant again.

The lurking danger to democracy will become even more apparent if we bear in mind that more than half of the 350 Congress (I) M.P.s. and over 1,000 M.L.A.s in the States are Sanjay men; not to speak of the Chief Ministers of most of the nine States which opted for Congress (I) rule in the June-end elections. Sanjay's men are not used to, nor do they support democratic practices. If they gain control of the administration and fill the vacuum, we have all had it. The chances of the elders taking over control of the party organisation and the Government are not bright; the men of yesterday have neither the vigour nor the will nor the stamina to fight. This is the inevitable sequel in a set-up where there is concentration of power and where no one has either the support or the influence or the talent to offer an alternative to Mrs Gandhi.

In short, the country is virtually facing a multi-faceted crisis of character, a crisis of leadership, a major threat to democracy, the judiciary and to such political justice as is left after the series of assaults on these vital ingredients. The onset of authoritarianism in its naked form is not far away. Most of us are spineless and timid; the others may welcome it as a better alternative to chaos.

Current National Affairs

India Recognises Kampuchea

After about 10 months' delay and risking the displeasure of China, the Government of India announced on July 7 its decision to recognise President Heng Samrin's Government in Kampuchea (former Cambodia). India did not have any diplomatic mission in Phnom Penh, the Kampuchean capital, for many years. The main factor in the decision has been the usual yardstick—the new regime being in effective control of the country.

Announcing the decision amidst cheers in the Lok Sabha, the External Affairs Minister, Mr P.V. Narasimha Rao, said: "We propose to immediately establish diplomatic relations with the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea in Phnom Penh, headed by President Heng Samrin." Reminding the members of the present Government's commitment to recognise the new Government in Kampuchea, Mr Rao said this stand was shared by an overwhelming majority of political opinion in India.

Kampuchea, after all the terrible ordeals which it has had to face, needs all possible assistance from the international community if it is to develop its economy, restore its internal infrastructure and re-establish its status as a sovereign, independent, non-aligned nation. It was in furtherance of these objectives that India proposed to immediately establish diplo-

matic relations with the Heng Samrin Government.

The external Affairs Ministry obviously had in mind the big divergence in the assessment of the Kampuchean developments between India and ASEAN when he said the country values its relations with ASEAN and that we should intensify our dialogue with them. "We anticipate that the development of our relations with all our neighbours in South-East Asia may enable us in our humble way to assist in the resolution of the problems that exist there".

It was clear that the situation in South-East Asia required a reduction of tensions, and the enhancement of regional stability so that individual States of the area can concentrate on the development of their societies and economies.

India's relations with Kampuchea go back to several centuries. The temples of Angkor Vat are a vivid testimony of the interaction between the cultures of our two countries. Indeed no other country in the Indo-China peninsula is linked to India as Kampuchea is. It is a cherished relationship.

Peking Regrets Decision: China considered India's recognition of the pro-Vietnamese Kampuchean regime to be "exceptionally regrettable". The decision "will only harm the image of India", a spokesman of the Foreign Ministry said.

On July 8, voicing the Chinese reaction, a spokesman said: "The fact that India, a big

non-aligned country, has recognised the puppet regime of Kampuchea propped up by the Vietnamese armed forces has in reality connived at Vietnam's aggression on Kampuchea."

ASEAN Protest: Malaysia is "deeply disappointed" over India's decision to recognise the Heng Samrin Government in Kampuchea. The Foreign Minister, Tengku Rithauddeen, pointed out that India's decision would not deter the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) from pursuing its stand over the Kampuchean issue in accordance with the U.N. resolution of last November. This resolution and the subsequent ASEAN statements had repeatedly called for the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea as a prerequisite of a political solution to the problem.

Singapore's Foreign Minister, Mr Suppiah Dhanabalan, said: "The Indian action was contrary to the interests of the five ASEAN members and "brought into question" India's role as a leader of the non-aligned movement. Recognition means condoning aggression against a non-aligned country."

U.S. Nuclear Fuel for India

The supply of U.S. nuclear fuel for the Tarapur atomic power plant at Trombay has lately become the subject of a tussle between President Carter and the Congress. While the President issues orders in his capacity as the Chief Executive authorising the supply of enriched uranium to India, the Congress withdraws sanctions because of the activity of the strong anti-Indian lobby in Washington.

At the end of June, the administration of President Carter again urged Congress not to block a nuclear fuel sale

to India, saying that the sale would advance, not weaken, the U.S. effort to halt the spread of nuclear weapons.

The Deputy Secretary of State, Mr Warren Christopher, told the House Foreign Affairs Committee in a prepared testimony that widespread opposition to the sale was based on misunderstandings.

Opposition in Congress is based partly on fears that allowing the sale would virtually nullify the 1978 legislation and signal to the world that the U.S. is not serious about imposing penalties on States which refuse to forgo the option of building nuclear weapons.

Some Congressmen said they did not want to make concessions to India because of the foreign policy followed by the Government of Mrs Indira Gandhi. Mr Christopher, however, said the opposition had failed to consider fully the possible repercussions of denying the sale. Denial would effectively end U.S.-India nuclear co-operation, which began in 1963 when the U.S. signed an agreement to supply fuel for the Tarapur reactor. In return, India promised to accept international inspection designed to guard against diversion of the Tarapur fuel into weapons programme.

India has kept its bargain. Its nuclear weapons were developed in other facilities, which India has consistently refused to submit to safeguards. The Indian position is that the U.S.A. cannot unilaterally amend the 1963 agreement and must approve the sale.

"If we disprove these shipments, India is very likely to consider itself free of its obligations under the 1963 agreement." The consequences might include Indian reprocessing of previously used fuel to plutonium, from which nuclear weapons are made.

U.S. officials acknowledged that India had not threatened to remove Tarapur from safeguards if the sale was denied. They said India was capable of building bombs, with or without the resources at Tarapur.

Mr Christopher also argued that critics of the sale had failed to come to grips with the geopolitical implications of the decline in Indo-U.S. relations that termination of the supply agreement would cause.

India-Bangladesh Discord

In recent months the relations between India and Bangladesh have not been as cordial as they were in the period immediately following the liberation of their country from the Pakistan yoke. India has continued her friendly approach, but Dacca has apparently been trying to extort yet more concessions from this country, especially in respect of the Ganga waters and the Farakka Barrage. There has, however, been no tension, and mutual goodwill has frequently been expressed.

On July 3 the Bangla Prime Minister, Shah Azizur Rahman, stated in Dacca that Bangladesh favours "peaceful negotiations" with India to resolve outstanding problems between the two countries. Recalling how India had helped Bangladesh during the war of liberation, he emphasised that his country "sincerely desired" good relations with her neighbour.

"We favour dialogue to confront India to solve all problems, including Farakka and the newly formed islands in the Bay of Bengal", he told correspondents.

Replying to a question, he said the 25-year Friendship Treaty between India and Bangladesh signed in 1972 would be laid before Parliament during the current session. It was a

constitutional obligation to submit all treaties before Parliament. We must follow the Constitution, he added.

Asked about the abortive coup attempt in Dacca Cantonment on June 17, he said it was nothing significant. Interrogation of army personnel was proceeding under the Army Act to maintain discipline.

Referring to the Assam situation, he said he did not think it had repercussions on Bangladesh. "It is the internal affair of India." On the situation in Chittagong hill tract, he said the overall situation there had improved a great deal. Development activities were in full swing to improve the living standard of the tribals.

He rejected an Opposition demand for a mid-term election. However, the Government might not object if there was a genuine demand for a referendum on fundamental changes in the Constitution.

He said the ruling party, B.N.P., headed by President Ziaur Rahman, had an absolute majority in Parliament and continued to win the confidence and trust of the people.

Deadlock in Farakka Talks

As the months pass, the sharp differences between India and Bangladesh over the share of Ganga waters and allied issues are becoming apparent. The 19th meeting of the Joint India-Bangladesh River Water Commission, held in Dacca from July 9 to 11, was as fruitless as the previous one held in Delhi in April. The stalemate continues.

The stark reality is that Bangladesh, which is getting used to extorting and securing more concessions from India,

now seems determined to internationalise the issue and get a larger share of the Ganga water even though it cannot be unaware that the depleted flow in the river during the lean season leaves only 10,000 cusecs for the Hooghly and the Calcutta-Haldia ports which are consequently decaying.

When the Janata Government signed the Farakka Agreement with Bangladesh in November, 1977, it sacrificed India's interests (despite the strong protests of the main sufferer, West Bengal) and gave a larger share of the river water to Bangladesh in a spirit of good neighbourliness. Since then, Bangladesh has been using all sorts of pressure tactics to persuade India to yield more, but Mrs Gandhi's Government has been firm.

As matters now stand, India has put up a sound proposal for a Brahmaputra-Ganga Canal by which the supply in the Ganga would be augmented and both countries would stand to gain. Bangladesh contends, however, that it would have to lose about 20,000 acres for the canal layout in its territory, while forgetting that India would have to lose over 2 lakh acres. Besides, Bangladesh has been insisting on the inclusion of Nepal in the talks, though the problem is bilateral and should be tackled as such.

The joint statement issued after the latest Dacca round of negotiations stated that it had been agreed to continue the discussions in the Joint Rivers Commission and, where necessary, at other levels also, which means the scope would be wider. The Dacca meeting also decided that the 20th meeting of the Commission would be held in Delhi at the end of August. The talks would then be arranged at a summit between the Bangladesh President and Mrs

Gandhi in Delhi next September. But the summit is no surety of success because the differences are sharp and the stand of both countries runs along parallel lines which never meet.

There are four months left before the 1977 accord would come up for an official review (in November this year), as stipulated in the 1977 agreement itself. Bangladesh's rigid stand is evidently dictated by extraneous (possibly political) considerations—which would have to be given up if an agreement is to be secured at all.

Less Foreign Aid for India

Although India was hoping to get a higher quantum of foreign aid this year in view of her growing needs for economic development assistance, the World Bank's Aid Consortium on July 4 agreed to give only 3·4 billion dollars for 1980-81. This amount, in real terms, is lower than last year's quantum of 3·3 billion because of the inflation. Apparently, the donor countries have been facing economic difficulties of their own. The Consortium thus ignored India's plea for a significantly increased assistance for furthering its developmental efforts.

With the World Bank contributing \$ 2 billion, an increase of \$ 100 million over last year, the donor countries between them were able to pledge only a little over \$ 1 billion, most of them maintaining the past year's level of pledges or at best marginally increasing them.

The Chairman of the Consortium meeting, Mr David Hopper, vice-President of the World Bank, was understood to have told the Consortium that taking into account the world economic climate and the domestic difficulties faced by donor countries, the response

could not be regarded as satisfactory.

The Indian delegation, led by Mr R.N. Malhotra, seemed to feel that the meeting's endorsement of India's need for increased flow of aid was not matched by actual pledges.

Although the commitment of aid this year represented about 2·3% increase on last year's figure, taking into account the rate of inflation the Consortium pledge marked a sliding back of its programme.

There was general agreement that the balance of payments deterioration was going to be a long-term problem; if corrective measures were not taken, India's reserves would erode fast and substantially. The need for increasing soft aid to India and also for improving the composition of aid through quick dispersing of aid was reported to have been widely appreciated.

Some of the Consortium members are understood to have hinted that India should seek more assistance from OPEC, apparently overlooking the fact that OPEC assistance to poorer countries was several times more in terms of GNP as compared to official aid by developed countries, most of which have failed to reach even the 0·7% target.

A statement issued by the Consortium noted with satisfaction the success with which the Indian Government managed to mitigate the impact of last year's drought on the Indian people through a large food distribution programme and through an accelerated "Food for Work" programme to provide rural employment while maintaining grain stocks at comfortable levels.

The Consortium noted with concern the deterioration in the performance of the Indian economy in the past years when the

gross domestic product fell by about 3%.

Following the Consortium decision, India may seek more aid from the International Monetary Fund (I.M.F.). Although both the World Bank and the I.M.F. had urged the Consortium to make available larger assistance on concessional terms to support the balance of payments and development objectives of India, the member-countries, looking to their own problems did not pledge more than \$ 1·4 billion. The balance of \$ 2 billion would have to be committed by the World Bank group.

India has already sought Rs. 540 crores from the IMF Executive Board. The country will be depleting its current foreign exchange reserves faster during the year.

Trouble in Assam

The Assam tangle remains unresolved, with the agitators persisting in their rigid stand on the question of "foreigners", adopting hostile tactics such as picketing of Government offices, staging "bandhs" and blocking rail and road traffic. Assam thus continues to be tense, and the Central Government is still worried by the challenge in the Eastern region.

The Lok Sabha on July 5 conferred on the President legislative powers for the State of Assam. Despite strong opposition, the House adopted, after a division, the Assam State Legislature (Delegation of Powers) Bill by a voice vote.

The Home Minister, Mr Zail Singh, contended that the Bill did not confer financial powers on the President, except when Parliament was not in session. The House also passed another Bill conferring additional powers on the Government to tackle the situation in Assam

arising out of the agitation over the "foreign nationals" issue.

While Opposition members described the two bills as "obnoxious", members of the ruling party called for stern action to deal with the situation in Assam. Both Mr Zail Singh and his Minister of State, Mr Yogendra Makwana, assured the House that the Government would not misuse the wide powers given to it.

The Essential Services Maintenance (Assam) Bill would replace an Ordinance that gave the Government powers to ban strikes in any essential service in the State.

The prospects of resuming talks are dim as the Centre and the students are on a collision course. The All-Assam Students Union's fundamental demands include acceptance of the N.R.C. of 1951 and withdrawal of "repressive" measures.

The Assam Essential Services Maintenance Bill makes it clear that the Centre's priorities are different from those of the students. Creation of a congenial climate is rather difficult in the present context.

Dandekar Report on Jobs and Taxes

The Dandekar Committee on tax measures to promote employment has made several recommendations, one of them being a ban on the import of harvester-combines. The committee, which made a special study of agricultural mechanisation and submitted its report on July 6, has come to the conclusion that the harvester combines have displaced harvesting and threshing labour, while their cost advantage is marginal or nil. In the case of wheat it was only Rs. 12·54 an acre and in the case of paddy it was negative.

The Committee thinks that under these circumstances there is little justification for the use of harvester-combines. Hence it has suggested that either the excise or import duties on them should be increased to keep them out, or they should not be imported.

Basing its findings on a recent study done for the Planning Commission by Delhi University, the Committee observed that there is no evidence of any impact of harvester-combines on cropping intensity or farm productivity. But the impact on employment is very large. The study shows that the average labour used for harvesting and threshing of wheat was 929 man-days per acre where harvester-combines are not used. The use of these machines reduced this figure to 0.50 man-days.

The estimated expenditure per acre for harvesting and threshing in the case of wheat shows only marginal advantage of mechanisation. With harvester-combines the cost of the operations came to Rs. 165.97 of which labour accounted for Rs. 6.20 and equipment Rs. 157.59. The cost of these operations without harvester-combines came to Rs. 178.51 of which labour charges came to Rs. 121.17 and equipment Rs. 57.34.

In the case of paddy the cost per acre with and without harvester-combines came to Rs. 204.26 and Rs. 191.82 respectively.

The Committee has recommended a limited use of wage-subsidy for employment. It feels that such a measure will not be practical. The revenue cost of wage-subsidy schemes may become excessive while their employment benefits may turn out to be small and doubtful.

To neutralise partly the extra cost of employing women the

Committee has recommended that (1) a weighted deduction of 150 per cent of the leave salary paid to women in respect of maternity leave (restricted to two occasions) should be allowed in the computation of business income of employers; and (2) the initial depreciation of the cost of building creches, schools and maternity homes should be raised from the existing 40% to 50%.

The Committee favours continuation of taxes on inputs. Where justified, relief may be given by exempting specified inputs or by extending the facility of receiving dutiable goods from their manufacturers under bond, subject to the necessary licence and prescribed procedures.

Poor Performance of Exports

The continuous decline in India's exports and the consequent gap in the country's balance of trade is now causing concern to the Government and highlights the urgency of adopting corrective measures, especially boosting of exports and, if possible, a check on imports. The average growth rate of India's exports during the last three years was about 6% annually against 27% a year in the previous three years (from 1974-75 to 1976-77).

The annual report of the Ministry of Commerce for 1979-80 points out that the decline in the growth of exports in recent years can be attributed to both external and internal factors. Although external factors, like the recessionary situation in global economy, protectionist measures pursued by certain advanced countries for some products from the developing countries had an adverse effect on exports, it was mostly domestic constraints that were responsible for the low growth rate.

The major contributory factors are: shortage of power, coal and certain basic raw materials, like steel and aluminium, rising prices, domestic demand, transport and shipping difficulties, industrial unrest and congestion at the ports.

The index of industrial production has been estimated at 147.3 during the first 10 months of 1979-80, compared to the index of 148.1 for the corresponding period of the previous year. In the last one year, domestic prices registered a rise of about 21% between March 1979 and March 1980, when the index of wholesale prices rose from 189.1 to 230.2. This adversely effected our relative competitiveness in the international market.

There was an increase in the exports of cotton textile during 1979-80. This was mainly on account of better performance in respect of cotton fabrics which had suffered continuous decline in the last few years. Exports of cotton fabrics recovered to 389 million sq. metres, valued at Rs. 203 crores, during April-December 1979, as against 327 million sq. metres valued at Rs. 154 crores, in the corresponding period of the previous year, thereby showing an increase of about 10% in quantity and 32% in terms of value.

The increase in agricultural items like rice and raw cotton was chiefly on account of the comfortable supply position. Exports of oil cakes also increased. The export of sugar during April-December, 1979 amounted to 560,000 tonnes, worth about Rs. 96 crores. For the time being the prospects of sugar exports during 1980-81 are difficult due to a substantial fall in domestic production.

China's Gesture to India

China has made another gesture of cordiality towards India, and it is described as more

positive and meaningful than the earlier moves designed to re-establish normal relations. New Delhi is responding to the gesture appropriately. The Minister of External Affairs, Mr P.V. Narasimha Rao, told the Lok Sabha on July 2 that going by the recent statement by the Chinese Vice-Premier, Mr Deng Ziaoping, on the settlement of the border problem the Government thinks that the Chinese Government wants the process of normalisation to be taken up again.

India was already proceeding with a policy of normalising relations with all neighbours. Before deciding the border question the Government would certainly ascertain the views of the people, take Parliament into confidence, and indeed have a full discussion of the matter. "We can never think of a situation where we can decide such an issue before discussing it here."

Several M.P.s had mentioned that the Government should not forget the resolution passed by the House in 1962 about vacation of Indian territory by the Chinese before discussions on a border settlement began. Mr Rao reaffirmed that the Government had not made any commitment on the border issue. All that he had done, was actually to restate "stated positions".

Unlike similar suggestions for a border settlement made on earlier occasions by the Chinese Government, the present suggestion of a package plan was "somewhat more precise". The Government of India had, however, never accepted the premise on which it is based, namely, that the Chinese side are making a concession in the Eastern sector by the giving up of the territory which they allege is illegally incorporated into India. Nevertheless, India welcomed

the prospect of the Eastern Sector being settled "without any particular difficulty".

Vice-Premier Deng Ziaoping of the People's Republic of China met an Indian journalist late in June 1980, according to the official Chinese News Agency, Zinhua, on the settlement of the border problem. The statement said: "So long as both sides are sincere, respect the present state of the border, and are tolerant towards each other, the Sino-Indian boundary question can be solved through peaceful negotiations." As a matter of fact, ever since negotiations on the boundary question began, China has never asked for the return of all the territory illegally incorporated into India by the old colonists.

"Instead, China suggested that both countries should make concessions, China in the East Sector and India in the West Sector, on the basis of the actually controlled border line so as to solve the Sino-Indian boundary question in a package plan, thus fully demonstrating the spirit of mutual understanding and concessions".

Oil Found in Bay of Bengal

The oil strike in Bombay High, through Soviet experts, has been a boon to India and that source is being tapped further with much success. The search for oil has continued and has borne fruit. Two major off-shore oil and gas discoveries have been made in the Bay of Bengal. From preliminary tests of the flow of oil and gas at Krishna-Godavari basin and gas at an off-shore structure east of the Andaman Islands the discoveries appear as promising as the Bombay High and Bassein off-shore fields.

Oil and gas were found on June 20 at a depth of 2,000

metres against the project drilling depth of 5,000 metres at the Godavari Structure about 60 km. north-east of Machiliapatnam and 25 km. off the Andhra Coast. Production testing has indicated a flow rate of over 600 barrels of oil a day through a half inch beam.

The gas find in two zones off Andaman Islands on June 21 is equally promising—its flow has been estimated at 1.8 lakh cubic metres a day through a half-inch choke.

The significance of the Godavari discovery is that oil has been found for the first time in the Bay of Bengal. This find improves significantly the prospects of finding hydro-carbons on the east coast of India.

India's first major break in off-shore exploration was obtained in 1974 with the discovery of Bombay High, and two years later the gas field in North and South Bassein, also in the west coast, off Bombay. During the last few years India has sunk millions of dollars in exploring the vast continental shelf of 390,000 sq. km. The money has been mostly spent on chartering foreign drilling ships; incidentally, it was the chartered drill ship "Pelerin" which found oil and gas in the Godavari basin and the other hired drilling vessel, "Frederiksberg", which discovered the Andamans structure.

An assessment well would be drilled at G.I. structure to establish the commercial potentiality of oil gas. The original well will also be drilled upto the projected depth of 5,000 metres.

Gas Struck in Gujarat

The Oil and Natural Gas Commission has struck gas in North Gujarat—at Akhaj in Mehsana district and at Pallyad near Baroda. An official spokesman said on June 28 that a new

gas pool had also been found in the already known Sisodra field in Ankleshwar.

Oil pools had been discovered at Panasar near Baroda and in the West Matwan field. Significant extensions of pools and oil fields had also been made in the West Sobhasan, Jhalora and Sisodra fields.

The Western region of ONGC is gearing itself to bolster production, particularly in north Gujarat. Several new installations have been completed and the production in north Gujarat is expected to go up to 1·7 million tonnes a year.

New Dangers to Defence

The worsening security environment around India and the Government's concern over the growing military and technological might of Pakistan and China are highlighted in the latest report of the Ministry of Defence. The Ministry has particularly referred to the reports of likely transfer of Western military technology to China and Pakistan's efforts to acquire nuclear weapons capability which in its view call for "constant and close vigil".

The report points out that the earlier assumptions that detente between the two Super Powers had become durable appeared no longer tenable. Both South-east Asia and Southwest Asia witnessed during the year under review (1979-80) destabilising developments. These have culminated in the events in Afghanistan bringing the danger of Super-Power confrontation close to India's neighbourhood. "This tended to bring about a significant change in the security environment of the sub-continent".

The report also refers to the increased Big-Power presence in the Indian Ocean region bringing "competitive rivalry and

intervention" closer to India from yet another direction. However, the likely pressures of outside forces, the potential armaments in the region adding to the vulnerability of the areas in the sub-continent as well as its neighbourhood, create a delicate situation not only for India but for the entire sub-continent which cannot be ignored.

The hope is reiterated that Pakistan will share the Indian perception of keeping the sub-continent free from external influence and pressures and reciprocate "our gesture appropriately".

On China the report reiterates India's wish to improve relations with it, pointing out that the India-China relations "fortunately remained quiet" during the year.

The following are the other points from the report:

The Army: A sizable improvement in the teeth-to-tail ratio has been achieved as a result of re-organisation and streamlining of the Army. Raising of certain "teeth arms" units continued. Particular attention is being paid to increasing the fire-power and mobility. Old vintage equipment is being replaced with modern equipment developed and manufactured indigenously.

Navy: Operational efficiency of the Navy received an over-riding priority and continued to be augmented through replacement and modernisation of the Naval arm; and the development of dockyards continued. A contract was signed for the acquisition of Sea-harrier aircraft to replace the aged Sea-hawks on "INS Vikrant". The fifth class frigate, "INS Tarangiri", completed the sea trials in May, 1979, and was commissioned in May this year. The sixth frigate, "INS Vindhya-giri", would be ready for com-

missioning in 1981. Both frigates were improvements on their predecessors and carried more modern and sophisticated weapons and helicopters.

Air Force: As a part of its modernisation programme, the force continued replacement of ageing Canberras and Hunters by the Jaguar aircraft. MI-8 helicopters were acquired to replace the other helicopters. A suitable aircraft had been selected to replace the ageing Dakota and Packet transport aircraft. Part of the requirement will be met by imports and the remaining by indigenous effort through collaboration under licence.

Better weapons systems were introduced during the year to enhance the operational potential of the air defence ground environment system (ADGES). Selected airfields have been equipped with ground control approach systems and six indigenously-manufactured GCA systems had become operative during the past three years.

Godavari Dispute Award

A long-standing dispute among five States over the sharing of the Godavari waters has at last been settled. The final report of the Justice Bachawat Tribunal, presented to Parliament on July 7, lays down an equitable formula.

The tribunal has ordered all the five concerned States to abide by the water sharing agreement they had earlier signed among themselves. Beginning 1975, the five States—Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa—had signed seven agreements among themselves, covering about 80 per cent of the waters of the river. It has amicably apportioned the remaining 20 per cent of the Godavari waters among the States. The tribunal has also ended the long-

standing dispute relating to the diversion of Godavari waters into the river Krishna from the Polavaram project of Andhra Pradesh.

It has directed that the Polavaram project shall be cleared by the Central Water Commission for a full reservoir level of 50 feet as expeditiously as possible.

The clearance of the dam which will submerge two populated areas in Madhya Pradesh and Orissa has been satisfactorily resolved. Maharashtra and Karnataka will be entitled to utilise their shares in the Krishna from the date of clearance of the Polavaram project.

The Tribunal's award will pave the way for early execution of several projects. Godavari is the largest peninsular river and ranks second in the country, covering in its basin an area of 1,20,800 sq. miles, which is nearly 10 per cent of the total geographical area of the country. Maharashtra has been allowed the use of all the waters of the river up to Paithan dam site, including the Pravara sub-basin, the waters up to certain specified dam sites in the other river systems flowing in Maharashtra area. Maharashtra has also been allotted about 25 TMC in the various sub-basins.

Karnataka has been allotted 17.77 TMC. Madhya Pradesh has been allowed the use of all the waters in the Pranhita sub-basin upto Nandana, Amla, Dokdoh, Mohgaon, integrated projects and Sovana Nalla project in Pranhita sub-basin, all the waters in the Wainganga sub-valley up to specific project sites and waters of other tributaries up to certain specific sites. In addition, Madhya Pradesh has been allotted 412 TMC for various major and minor schemes.

Orissa has been allowed the use of all the waters of the river

Indravati up to the upper Indravati Project site, diversion of about 90 TMC from the Indravati sub-basin to Mahanadi basin, use of the balance waters after ensuring a quantum of 45 TMC at the Orissa-Madhya Pradesh border. In addition, Orissa has been allocated 77 TMC for major and minor schemes.

Andhra Pradesh has been allowed the use of balance water in the Godavari sub-basin downstream of Pochampad and other rivers and specified project sites. Certain specific quantities of waters to be used on specified projects have been indicated. Andhra Pradesh has also been permitted to divert 85 TMC directly from Inchampalli project.

New Trends in Education

Certain new trends are noticeable in India educational institutions, in particular, the gradual fall in the demand for higher education and the alteration of professional courses like engineering, technological, medicine, agriculture and veterinary science.

These are some of the findings of the first-ever all-India survey of higher education recently conducted by the University Grants Commission on behalf of the Minister of Education and Social Welfare.

The Survey covered a period of 10 academic years—1963-64 to 1973-74. Though the work on it began in 1973, it was only recently that the report was made public. A sum of Rs. 2 lakhs was spent on the survey.

In 1969-70, the number of students enrolled for higher education increased by 2,26,677 over the preceding year's 15,66,103. In 1970-71 the increase was 1,60,920. The following year the number decreased to 1,10,341. In 1972-73 it

fell to 1,03,066, and in 1973-74 only 58,913 more were enrolled in the institutions of higher learning.

Percentage-wise there has been a decline in the annual enrolment growth rate. In 1968-69, an exceptional year, the students in the universities increased by 14.3 per cent over the previous year's total; in 1969-70, the rate of increase dropped to 12.6 per cent. By 1973-74 it had declined to 2.7 per cent. According to the latest figures available with the University Grants Commission, the rate of increase for 1978-79 was only 2.1 per cent.

But the demand for education, though on the decline, has still been big enough. Forty universities and 2,197 colleges had to be set up between 1963-64 and 1973-74 to accommodate the students. This works out to one university every three months and one college in less than two days! The members of universities and affiliated colleges in 1973-74 were 95 and 4,308.

About 8,00,000 students were receiving higher education in 1963. In 1973 their number increased to 22,00,000. And according to the latest figures available, nearly 26,00,000 persons were receiving higher education in 1978-79. The number of women students going in for higher education has been rising. Their percentage to the total student population increased from 21.5 in 1966-67 to 23.4 in 1973-74. Their number has been increasing steadily since then.

While professional courses like technology, medicines, engineering and agriculture lost their charm, law and education gained popularity.

Current International Affairs

World Panel for N-Fuel

Third World countries who see atomic power as the only answer to crippling oil prices and allied power problems have won an important round in their battle for guaranteed access to nuclear fuel and technology. A Committee was set up to tackle the question at a Vienna Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency held on July 1.

During a two-year review several countries criticised the U.S.A. for attempting to impose stricter controls on the use of enriched uranium fuel, of which it is a major supplier. Fearing that the uranium could be reprocessed into plutonium, the U.S.A. introduced the Non-Proliferation Act in 1978, banning other countries from reusing U.S. fuel without its permission.

Plutonium is used for fast-breeder reactors, an obvious attraction for countries short of natural resources. It can also be used to make bombs. Experts taking part in the review, called the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation, accused the U.S.A. of letting military worries overshadow nuclear powers' key role in the world's energy future.

Brazil's representative said: "What should stand out first and foremost is the inalienable right of each and every country to fully develop nuclear energy for peaceful ends, and to the unhindered exercise of that right

whenever its energy needs so justify."

Resentment over Washington's stand led to a campaign by several countries for a system of internationally assured uranium supplies, if necessary bypassing the U.S.A.

But the study, which was non-binding on Governments, ignored U.S. objections to reprocessing and supported the development of fast breeders.

The IAEA Governors, at their earlier meeting, approved a resolution saying the board recognised that special consideration should be given to developing countries. It also recognised the need to improve international assurances of nuclear supply "in a manner consistent with mutually acceptable considerations of nuclear non-proliferation."

Rebels More Active in Afghanistan

Despite several months of control by the Soviet army in Afghanistan, the rebel tribesmen continue to be active and the intensity of the insurgent activity is in fact increasing.

This is the assessment of U.S. military specialists who believe the Soviet Union will be forced to commit thousands of additional troops in Afghan areas. Even then, specialists predict, it will take years for the Russians to crush the rebellion.

"The Soviet security situation continues to slide", said one

World Panel for N-Fuel

Rebels More Active in Afghanistan

"Pak Govt. in Exile"

45% of Pak Budget for Defence

Zia Bows to Shias

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officer who closely studied detailed information on developments in Afghanistan. The present Russian forces are barely adequate to maintain security in the major urban areas and along the main supply and communication routes.

The insurgency is showing more signs of strength. The partisans are inflicting more casualties on the Russians. As things stand now, the rebels have a free run and effective control of wide areas of the country outside the major cities and away from the main routes.

The analysts dismissed as insignificant the pull-out of Soviet troops announced by Moscow at the end of June.

They are satisfied that the withdrawal was limited to about 5,000 men and that these troops, along with their rocket artillery and anti-aircraft weapons, were excess baggage in a war being waged against mostly small bands of tribesmen. Soviet crews are said to be learning new lessons at some cost—estimated at between 10 and 15 helicopters a month shot down.

Russia is now believed to have about 80,000 troops in Afghanistan, built around five combat divisions, and there may be about 40,000 more in southern military districts near Afghanistan.

The Afghan Army, whose strength reached 100,000 only two years ago, is said to be down to about 40,000 to 50,000 with only some 15,000 to 25,000 of them considered even marginally combat-effective.

"Pak Govt. in Exile"

Resentment against President Zia is mounting within Pakistan, and also among Pakistanis residing in foreign lands. Certain influential Pakistanis have formed a 12-

member Government-in-exile in Britain and are living in Europe. To ensure his safe conduct back to the U.K. and to save the Government of India unnecessary embarrassment the spokesman, who was in Delhi early in July, sought anonymity.

He distributed copies of the first issues of two cyclo-styled magazines "Resistance" (in English) and "Mazahmat" (in Urdu). These contained news about the formation of the Government-in-exile known as the High Command of the liberation Army of Pakistan (P.L.A.P.).

Besides the "Chairman" and the "Secretary-General", the heads of the political and military wings, there are eight other members of the High Command, two each from the four provinces of Punjab, Sind, Baluchistan and the North-West Frontier Province.

The spokesman said that while the names of the "Chairman" and "Secretary-General" were being withheld for security reasons, "the names of Mr Raja Anawar and Mr Suhail, the respective heads of the political and military wings, were being made public because they were "far out of harm's way". Mr Kausar Ali Shah has been designated "Finance Secretary". Arrested in 1977 on a charge of sedition, he was sentenced to undergo 24 years' rigorous imprisonment. He is still in jail.

The names of the eight representatives of the four provinces were not disclosed as they were either in Pakistan or were intending to visit it.

The aim of the P.L.A.P. was to "accelerate and strengthen the struggle against the military despot and to liberate the nation through blood and fire". The Liberation Army promises a federal structure with full auto-

nomy to the provinces and guarantees against the misuse of religion for political purposes, the creation of a socialist society, the establishment of a people's militia and replacement of the existing courts of law by people's courts.

The spokesman warned "the illegal and terrorist regime of Islamabad" that the armed struggle against it would be intensified if any action was taken against any political party or freedom fighter.

45% of Pak Budget for Defence

The Pakistan budget for 1980-81, announced at the end of June, disclosed that Pakistan plans to spend on defence Rs. 1408·34 crores, or 44·9% of the Rs. 3,134·98 crore budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1. This is the highest percentage on record and exposes that country's claims that it was not arming itself feverishly.

"The rise in defence expenditure by Rs. 153 crores or 12% over last year's figure reflects a bare minimum response on our part to the pressing geo-political developments in the area", the Finance Minister, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, said.

The Budget also provides for an expenditure of Rs. 12·4 crores for the Atomic Energy Commission as against Rs. 10 crores in the previous year.

With a provision of Rs. 2646·40 crores for the annual development programmes, the overall size of the budget has increased to Rs. 5781·35 crores from Rs. 5085·24 crores in the previous year. Percentage-wise, this registers a rise of 13·7. Foreign assistance receipts in the budget are placed at Rs. 1,097 crores, based largely on the availability of aid in the pipeline and the commitments by the Aid-Pakistan Consortium in its meeting held early in July.

Debt servicing gets Rs. 801·64 crores, marking an increase of Rs. 82·64 crores or 11% on this count.

The pre-budget estimates left a resource gap of Rs. 693·62 crores during 1980-81 as against Rs. 380·76 crores in the previous year. New taxes would raise an additional Rs. 253 crores, leaving a deficit of Rs. 350 crores.

The pension for the Army reservists has been raised, according to Radio Pakistan. The budget also provides for additional dearness allowance for defence personnel.

Zia bows to Shias

President Zia seldom makes concessions to agitators, mainly because of his arrogance and over-confidence, but on July 7 the Shias of Pakistan, who form 30% of that country's population, wrested a concession from him on the question of taxes. The Shias had surrounded the Secretariat in Islamabad and disrupted all Government work, in violation of martial law regulations.

The concession was given in talks between the President and Shia leaders, including Mufti Jaffar Hussain. The General promised to change the tax laws by September 15 to meet Shia demands, and not to change the laws of any religious sect in future.

The General had earlier reacted to the Shia show of strength by mobilising a large armed force, precipitating a confrontation. At one time two divisions of troops threw a cordon of fire-power, including machine-guns, around the demonstrators in front of the gleaming white Secretariat building. Diplomats said it was the biggest show of military force in the Capital since General Zia-ul-Haque seized power in a coup three years ago.

The Shias' main demands included abolition of the compulsory collection of Zakat (wealth tax) and Ushr (farm tax). Shia spokesman reported that Mufti Jaffar Hussain restrained militants who wanted to storm the Secretariat and set it on fire.

President Zia's position in Pakistan is evidently weaker than it was and the resentment against his ruthless, autocratic rule has been mounting.

Mauritius Demands Diego Garcia

As a part of the effort to restore peace to the Indian Ocean area, Mauritius, the original owner, has officially asked Britain to return the Indian Ocean islands of Diego Garcia ceded to it in 1965. The demand was made by the Mauritian Prime Minister, Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, when he met Mrs Margaret Thatcher, in London on July 7. Earlier also, Mauritius had voiced its demand, which is backed by the Third World.

Mauritius has taken the stand that, contrary to the treaty obligations, Diego Garcia, which was meant to be a refuelling port, has been turned into an American base, making the Indian Ocean an area of confrontation with the Soviet Union.

The demand for the return of Diego Garcia has received unanimous support from the Organisation of African Unity. There are also persistent reports that France is considering calling of an international conference to discuss the demilitarisation of the Indian Ocean and the Gulf. That would amount to the exclusion from these regions of the U.S.A. and the Soviet Union.

French officials recalled a series of communiques that the French President, Mr Giscard d'Estaing, signed in February and March with the chiefs of the

Gulf Emirates calling on the Super Powers to stay out of the area.

The French views were reiterated almost immediately after the U.S. Defence Secretary, Mr Harold Brown, had a long meeting with President Giscard. Mr Brown briefed President Giscard on U.S. plans to reinforce Rapid Deployment Forces and to acquire bases in Kenya, Oman and Somalia.

The American argument is that the U.S. needs these facilities if it is to offset the military advantage that the Soviet Union, following its intervention in Afghanistan, now possesses because of its closer proximity to the Gulf.

Without the capability to respond quickly and effectively to any Soviet military action in this region, the US cannot ensure that it will be able to maintain the flow of vitally-needed oil through the Gulf in a future conflict.

Zimbabwe Breaks Off with S. Africa

The Whites in South Africa are now finding themselves isolated, the establishment of black majority rule in Zimbabwe-Rhodesia having left that racist country as the only one where the native population is still suppressed and deprived of all basic rights. On July 6, Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe announced that his country was breaking off diplomatic relations with South Africa. He had asked the South African diplomatic representative to close his office and leave the country.

Mr Mugabe disclosed that his Government had evidence to indicate that the South African mission in Salisbury had been recruiting blacks and whites in Zimbabwe to serve with the South African forces in opera-

tions in Angola, Mozambique and Zambia.

The Zimbabwe leader, speaking on his return from the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) summit meeting in Freetown (Sierra Leone) said he hoped South Africa would agree to keep a trade mission in Salisbury to facilitate trade and transport relations. He felt that South Africa might want to safeguard its extensive interests and investments in Zimbabwe.

Mr Mugabe said his Government had infiltrated men into the South African recruiting drive in Zimbabwe; the infiltrators had cracked special codes used by the South Africans to screen potential recruits. "We feel greatly concerned that South Africa is pursuing her policy of destabilising our region, secretly, mounting attacks, organising sabotage and continuing to disrespect the principle of peaceful co-existence to which we are committed."

Soviet Space Feat

The Soviet Union has added to its creditable record by keeping two cosmonauts in space for four months—and they are still in space and intend to continue there for some weeks more, according to Soviet plans. The spacemen are Leonid Popov and Valery Ryumin; they have been orbiting the earth since April 9.

Pravda has confirmed that the pair will be still in space during the Moscow Olympics. It is not, however, known how long thereafter the spaceship will be kept aloft.

Ryumin set a record of 175 days in space last year aboard the same "Salyut 6" spaceship. He has now spent a total of 270 days (on July 13) in orbit within a span of two years.

The two spacemen are reported to be happy and fit; they are taking exercise, sleeping well, jogging and playing games to keep themselves busy while making the necessary observations through the numerous scientific instruments on the ship. They are also taking photographs while repairing the space station whenever necessary.

The ground group for the psychological support of the crew in the Soviet Union has been organising entertainment for the two spacemen. According to a Soviet report, the spacemen's nights are spent making sure that their arms do not weightlessly "swim" away.

The spaceship now aloft is an old one and has circled the earth about 160,000 times during its life-span, including the latest venture. Interestingly enough, both the spacemen have gained weight since they went aloft, from one to two kilos each.

Russia-Iran Discord

A notable, and rather surprising, development in July was the tension between Iran and the Soviet Union, despite the giant Communist Power's sustained efforts to woo Teheran and thus take the U.S.A.'s place as the Iranians' big ally and protector. By a sudden order the Iranian Government asked the U.S.S.R. to reduce its diplomatic staff in Teheran to the barest minimum. Iran expelled a Soviet diplomat on a charge of espionage. This was a mark of displeasure and hostility. On July 8, the Soviet Union asked the Iranian authorities to take all measures necessary to prevent "provocative actions" in Teheran, including a possible takeover of the Soviet Embassy there.

In an urgent despatch from Teheran the official Soviet news

agency said the Soviet Embassy's Press Attaché had issued a statement saying: "There is information to the effect that elements hostile to the Soviet Union intend to carry out provocative actions against the Soviet Embassy in the Islamic Republic of Iran up to its seizure. Such actions have the aim of prejudicing the good-neighbour relations between the U.S.S.R. and the Islamic Republic of Iran."

The Embassy drew the attention of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran and other competent Iranian authorities to the dangerous character of such actions and demanded that they take all appropriate measures for excluding such an eventuality.

The alleged threat to seize the Soviet Embassy in Teheran came against a backdrop of deteriorating Soviet-Iranian relations during the past few weeks. Earlier, the Iranian Foreign Minister, Mr Qotabzadeh, harshly assailed the Kremlin's activities in Iran and ordered a major cutback on Soviet diplomatic personnel.

Mr Qotabzadeh said the Soviet Union would be allowed to have in Teheran only as many diplomats as Iran has in Moscow, and the Soviet Union was told to close one of its two consulates in Iran.

If the order is fully carried out, it would mean a sizable exodus of Soviet personnel because Iran's Moscow Embassy has just nine diplomats as compared to a total of more than 40 Soviet diplomats in Teheran. The Iranian Foreign Minister also criticised Iran's Communist Party, the Tudeh, charging that its members were agents of Moscow.

Russia to stay on in Kabul

All hopes of an early settlement of the Afghanistan crisis

have vanished with the report that the Soviet Union is making preparations for a long stay in that country. It is understood that the Soviet Union is building permanent facilities for its troops in Afghanistan and conducting tests there on equipment—including a battle-field computer—despite Moscow's announced partial withdrawal, according to a U.S. military report received in Islamabad early in July.

The dependents of Soviet military personnel were being brought into the Central Asian country; permanent quarters for officers and troops were under construction and some of the better-equipped Afghan bases have been commandeered by the Russians.

Other indications of a prolonged stay were measures being taken to improve the critical logistical problem. Ambushes by Afghan rebels have made supplying Soviet troops in outlying areas a constant headache. To ease the situation, two permanent bridges that will span the Amu Darya river, which separates Afghanistan and the Soviet Union, are being built to replace two temporary structures used by the Soviet forces since late December, 1979, when the occupation began.

The Soviets, like other armies in past conflicts, are using the Afghan guerrilla war as a testing ground for new military equipment under combat conditions. The U.S. report said items detected in Afghanistan so far included new armoured personnel-carriers and new models of multiple rocket-launchers.

Thus, from all accounts, the Soviet Union was re-organising its military deployment in Afghanistan to consolidate its hold.

Thailand : Next War Theatre?

Thailand is now the USA's only dependable ally and military base in South-East Asia, and Washington is taking good care to see that its protege is not exposed to any military or other danger. Fearing more border raids on Thailand by Vietnamese forces which seek to eliminate Khmer Rouge forces, the U.S. administration on July 2 began despatching to Thailand, by air, urgently needed arms and equipment to enable that nation to defend its territorial integrity and sovereignty.

The giant C-131 U.S. Air Force transport planes have delivered howitzers, recoil-less artillery pieces, mortar, radar equipment and ammunition. Washington is also expediting delivery of M-48 medium tanks promised earlier. The tanks, however, were not airlifted.

Under the Manila Pact signed in 1954, the U.S. is bound to go to the assistance of Thailand when the latter is threatened. Late in June, following an incursion by Vietnamese troops into Thailand the Thai Government asked for urgent U.S. assistance but did not invoke the treaty. Small contingents of U.S. combat personnel have occasionally been sent to Thailand to join Thai forces in training and exercises. Such visits are considered particularly useful since 90 per cent of the equipment with the Thai armed forces is of American manufacture.

The U.S. Administration does not believe, however, that Hanoi is planning any massive invasion of Thailand. The US envoy to Thailand discounted the apprehension that the flare-up on the Thai border would turn into U.S. involvement in another Vietnam-type conflict.

The Vietnamese intentions, the U.S. envoy indicated, were to seal the border to deny sanctuary for the Khmer Rouge in

Thailand, and to intimidate the Thais. Despite the absence of a crisis situation, U.S. arms supplies were needed to enable Thailand to defend its territory against violation. Judging from the threats, Thailand may be the next theatre of conflict, the Big Powers concerned being Russia (backing Vietnam) and the U.S.A. (backing Thailand).

U.N. Conference on Death Penalty

The Supreme Court of India recently ruled by a majority vote that the death penalty was neither an illegal nor an immoral act and was a legitimate method of punishment for murder. The issue of death sentence is, however, of worldwide interest; some countries have abolished it, while others have retained it to check serious crime. To ensure full consideration of this vital issue, a U.N. Conference has been convened in Caracas (Venezuela) in August. The session will be attended by about 1,000 delegates.

A crime survey conducted by the U.N. has failed to come to any definite conclusion concerning the deterrent effect of the death penalty. The world trend is towards revising the criminal codes and criminal justice procedures concerning violent crimes like rape. The revisions have made the penalty for violent crimes, including violent political crimes, more severe. This is said to have had some slight effect in controlling assault and *larceny* (legal term in England for theft).

The crime rate in most parts of the world has increased at an alarming rate. During the six-year period beginning 1970, cases of robbery rose by 197 per cent, drug abuse by 114 per cent, theft by 46 per cent and intentional homicide by 20 per cent.

(Contd. on page 46)

A Fresh Look at the Constitution

There is talk about having a fresh look at the Constitution of India after almost every general election. The electoral distortions which enable a political party to capture a majority of seats in the Lok Sabha on a minority of votes, the command over Parliament which a political party is able to exercise even when the majority of the people are opposed to it directly or indirectly, and the vast number of voters who go unrepresented in Parliament and the State legislatures— and hence in the Central and State Ministries—all these and other apparently undemocratic features of the existing set-up prompt doubts in the minds of the people of all shades of opinion and all positions in life. These doubts concern the suitability of the Constitution and other systems under the present conditions. The Doubting Thomases who have always entertained fears about the country's basic laws as drafted by the Constituent Assembly (which was set up in 1946, before Independence) have again become vocal. The demand for having a fresh look at the Constitution so as to modify it drastically has consequently become stronger.

In particular, the question is asked: is the Constitution quite relevant to present-day India? The real, and frequently voiced, demands relate to two issues: one, since the parliamentary system, it is said, has been found wanting, it should be replaced by the Presidential system. Secondly, since the present system of elections—by majority vote in single-member

constituencies—has resulted in strange situations in which the majority of the voters remain unrepresented, it should be replaced by proportional representation on the French pattern. Both the issues need a closer examination in the light of recent events, though these have been discussed broadly several times and the arguments for and against them are not unfamiliar.

A preliminary observation would not be out of place before either of these issues is reviewed. It would be good to recall the doubts expressed by certain top Indian leaders at the time the Constitution was framed by the Constituent Assembly. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru said: "It may be that the Constitution this House (the Constituent Assembly) may frame may not satisfy free India. This House cannot bind down the next generation or the people who will duly succeed us in this task." The inadequacy of the Constitution, at which Nehru hinted, has become apparent from the fact that already the Constitution has been amended over 40 times since it came into force on January 26, 1950. More amendments are likely as a result of the recent Supreme Court judgement holding certain provisions of the 42nd amendment as invalid for certain reasons. The verdict does not conform to Mrs Gandhi's concepts. Even otherwise, changes in the Constitution become inevitable as time passes and as new problems and unexpected situations arise.

The observations made by Mr T.T. Krishnamachari at a

meeting of the Constituent Assembly on November 5, 1948, are also worth recalling. He conceded that the amount of attention necessary for a document of such importance had not been given to it by the Drafting Committee.

Now we may examine the two demands one by one. First, the desirability or otherwise of the Presidential system for India. The argument is often put forth (and it was repeated by an Allahabad High Court Judge, Mr S.C. Mathur, on June 15, 1980) that the Presidential system would suit India better because it would mean fewer elections, greater stability and also administrative efficiency. Others point out that, with the comfortable majority at her command and the control she exercised through her party in the vast majority of States, Mrs Gandhi has wide powers anyway.

The fact is that whenever the country faces a political crisis, the demand is voiced for the Presidential system. At present the grave situation in Assam and Tripura, and the worsening situation on the economic front, are quoted as factors that warrant a drastic change in the system. India has a complex polity, and all the paraphernalia of elections is wasteful and inefficient in view of the widespread illiteracy and the lack of political knowledge among the masses. The virtual collapse of the party system in India has ruined the pitch for a successful parliamentary system.

Mr J.R.D. Tata, the leading

industrialist, and Mr N.A. Palkhivala, the well-known Constitutional lawyer, have been advocating the U.S. type of Presidential system for India. Mr Palkhivala, who is a champion of people's basic rights, even said that with some modifications the existing Constitution itself can be made to serve the growing needs and a modified form of Presidential system can be introduced. The advantages of a Presidential system are two: one, the chief executive is irremovable during the term for which he is elected, except of course in case of impeachment. While a Prime Minister has always to keep Parliament with her and, as the phrase goes, to look constantly over his shoulders to ensure that his flock is kept together and that there are no defections or back-stabbing (which are common enough in India). This means that groupism and party factionalism become fruitless games because under the Presidential system the tenure of the chief executive is fixed and there can be no toppling or overthrow by pulling the carpet from under his feet. Besides, a President is able to choose a harmonious Cabinet consisting of talented people. His hands are not bound because of the obligation to accommodate party or group leaders, whether they deserve to be Ministers or not. The President's choice is thus much wider and he can choose the best men and women he can get. As the U.S. practice has shown, a Presidential system is no less democratic.

But the Presidential system has also certain drawbacks which cannot be dismissed easily. There is concentration of power in the hands of a single individual, even though he is popularly elected. The system works well in the U.S.A. because of the high standard of literacy, the wide-awake electorate, and the

well-defined two-party system. In India the federation has several complex factors; there is confusion in the parties and there is no likelihood of a two-party system developing, at least in the foreseeable future. Thus it is futile to copy a system wholesale from any country; no political system can be safely planted in a country simply because it has worked well in another. The political system must have roots in the soil. Every system must suit the people and the conditions prevailing in their country. What may appear sound in principle and on paper may not work well in practice because of the imponderables and also the nature of the human material available.

The second issue, that of the electoral distortions and the consequent anomalies that an election creates regarding majority parties and unfair representation also calls for a fuller analysis. The results of two general elections, in 1977 and 1980, will help to show up the odd results *vis-a-vis* the votes cast and the seats won. The Congress secured 34.5 per cent of the votes against the Janata Party's 43.17 per cent, losing 8.52 per cent votes as compared to the 1971 poll, but this small difference meant a huge loss of 197 seats! The 1977 election was negative in the sense that the people in the northern States had actually voted for the Janata in protest against the family planning and other Emergency excesses, and not on national issues and socio-economic programmes of parties.

The tragedy of the Indian electoral system is obvious from the fact that no ruling party since Independence has secured even 50 per cent of the total votes in a general election. The percentage of votes obtained by the Congress (I) in what is generally described as "a great triumph",

"a sweeping victory" and "the Indira wave", was only 42.58 per cent of the votes cast, but the party secured nearly 67 per cent of the seats. The corresponding percentages for the Congress in earlier elections were: 1952—45; 1957—47.8; 1962—40.73; the same in 1967, and 1971—43.03. Thus even Pandit Nehru ruled the country with a minority of votes.

If we bear in mind the fact that the total voting percentage in an election has never exceeded 60 per cent, the oddity of the election outcome becomes apparent. The majority including those who have either abstained (about 40 per cent or more of the total electorate) or voted for other parties and have thus not favoured the Congress, and yet this party has ruled the country for decades (except during 1977-80).

With such distortions the Opposition suffers greatly in strength; the number of seats it actually gets bears no proportion to the electorate's backing; hence the weak Opposition and the autocratic tendencies in the ruling party. There is no co-operation, no regular consultation with the Opposition, no viable alternative to the ruling party, no cohesion among the truncated opposition groups. In fact, almost all the good features of a healthy parliamentary system are missing; instead there is instability, switch of loyalties and opportunistic, makeshift alliances. It may be added that the parliamentary system no longer satisfies even the British people these days. The system as it operates in this country—with myriad legislators, numerous Ministers, mid-term polls, wasteful practices and corruption—all bode ill for the country's future. Is the concept of widespread political participation in the democratic process not an illusion in the circumstances?

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Is the Union Budget Development-Oriented?

The current year's Union budget sprang a pleasant surprise. In the past taxes were levied in the name of planning. But not so now. Is then this budget development-oriented? This important question is discussed in this feature.

—Editor

I. The Problem: The Union budget for the current fiscal year is the first of its kind reflecting unmistakably the new government's concern for the poor and the down-trodden. It is the first budget of the government which wrested power out of the hands of the Janata party in the wake of the Lok Sabha mid-term poll held lately in January last. It synchronises with the initial year of the new five-year plan, 1980-85, and marks the resumption of the nation's efforts and the government's unremitting resolve to revive and restore the country's shattered "economy to the path of stability, growth and social justice".

It will be apposite to preface the discussion of the proposition with a brief account of the present chaotic state of the economy and the challenges to be tackled by the planners and the finance minister.

The last year (1979-80) was, perhaps, the worst in the decade. According to the Economic Survey, 1979-80, "There was deterioration in almost every sector of the economy. Agricultural production was substantially lower; industrial production was stagnant and serious problems arose in the infrastructure. Prices rose sharply. The reliance on deficit financing increased substantially and money supply continued to rise disproportionately. The foreign trade gap doubled as compared with the previous year (1978-

79) and the foreign exchange reserves declined". As a result, the Gross National Product registered a fall of 3 per cent over the preceding year. This is a very depressing picture of the Indian economy. Its restoration to a buoyant state would, indeed, be a Herculean task and no single year's budget can accomplish it. It would, to quote from the Economic Survey again, "call for a sustained action over several years". We will have to instill among the people the virtues of "austerity, discipline and hard work" in order to live a better life. The budget under comment attempts a "modest contribution" towards this direction.

II. Budgetary provisions: The philosophy of the budget is that high taxation does not necessarily result in big revenue resources. It marks a departure from the traditional and stereo-typed ways of the past budgets to mop up resources and create a climate for the plan. The Finance Minister, Mr R. Venkataraman, has, therefore, not placed great reliance on widening and deepening taxes. In fact, one sees a perceptible accent on tax reliefs for the taxpayers of both direct and indirect taxes.

It can well be argued that there was not much of a choice because the government had, on the eve of the budget, soaked up as much as Rs. 2,100 crore through the price hike of petroleum and petroleum products

and also raised the railway freight rates and passenger fares. If, on the top of it, the government had imposed additional levies in the regular General Budget, the result would have been disastrous. Some critics have characterised the hikes as a very "clever move".

While the aforesaid pre-budget increases are likely to give a push to transport costs and product costs (and hence inflate the prices), the tax concessions may cause sagging of the prices. To what extent neutralisation takes place is unpredictable. Will these set of measures pave the way to the desired price stability? This remains a big question mark before us.

All the same, the budget leaves no one in doubt about its "conscientious attempt to make a new beginning in quickening the impulses of growth in a languishing economy" says the *Statesman*.

(a) **Big investment:** In order to achieve a higher growth rate of 5 per cent per annum for the new plan, 1980-85, the budget envisages a 16·6 per cent rise in the aggregate outlay of the annual plan for 1980-81, raising it to Rs. 14,593 crore from Rs. 12,511 crore in the previous year. One might well argue that this rise is necessitated by the double digit inflation (20 per cent) during 1979-80 and, therefore, the hike in investment may, in effect, mean a lower investment in real terms. Further, will not increased investment fan the flames of inflation still more?

(b) *Sectoral allocation*: It is not so much the total outlay as its sectoral distribution that is important. Though Mr Venkataraman says categorically that the priorities of the Janata government are unacceptable to his government, the break-up of the outlay hardly reflects any fundamental shift. Modernisation of agriculture, provision for major, medium and minor irrigation, power generation, development of small scale industries and of infra-structure continue to receive due attention.

The agricultural sector will have an allocation of Rs. 2,247 crore (1811); irrigation of Rs. 1,380 crore (1258) for major and minor works and Rs. 266 crore for minor works; power generation of Rs. 2,745 crore (2466). (Figures in brackets represent the allocations for 1979-80).

Since khadi, village and small-scale industries sector has the highest employment potential next to agriculture, a sum of Rs. 150 crore has been budgeted for this purpose. The Finance Minister also proposes to set up a national level Handloom Development Corporation for providing a package of marketing and development assistance for the handloom industry. An Institute of Handloom Technology for the North-eastern region is also envisaged.

The problem of reduction of rural unemployment and under-employment receives a special notice. Under a new National Rural Employment Programme initiated by the new government the States will get assistance besides the foodgrains aid under the food-for-work programme. It is noteworthy that, unlike the past, the food-for-work will not be an *ad hoc* programme but form a permanent feature of the new plan. It is estimated that, if properly implemented, this programme will generate 800-900 million man-

days of additional employment.

Conscious of the lack of some critical inputs for the industrial sector, the pragmatist finance minister has raised the allocation for the steel sector in the Central Plan for 1980-81 to Rs. 803 crore from Rs. 600 crore in the previous year's plan. The target of saleable steel has been stepped up to 8.76 million ton.

The family welfare and planning programmes, which are alleged to have been neglected during the three-year Janata regime, will be revitalized. Accordingly, the budget contains a provision of Rs. 250 crore for health and family welfare. The strategy here will be to change the attitudes of the eligible couple and persuade them to accept the small family norms. Methods of coercion alleged to have been employed during the Emergency will not be used.

Under the Revised Minimum Needs Programme, the provision of safe drinking water for the villages has been accorded high priority. Inclusive of the States' contributions, the aggregate expenditure on this vital activity will be of the order of Rs. 294 crore. The Centre's contribution will be about one-third. 35000 additional villages are expected to be benefited and will get protected drinking water.

III. Strategy: A budget is undoubtedly a powerful engine for the socio-economic transformation. The Finance Minister has, therefore, adopted a hand-picked plan strategy. Its important elements are:

(a) To encourage savings. For this certain incentives have been provided. (b) To encourage investment. The convertibility clause has been suitably modified with a view to removing inhibitions for new investments and modernisation of industry. (c) To avert demand recession, that is, to sustain the consumption of the consump-

tion goods. The tax reliefs; enhancement of the income tax exemption limit from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 12,000 per annum in the case of incomes upto Rs. 12,000; the reduction in the surcharge on income tax from 20 to 10 per cent and the facilities to the savers as of pre-1979—all such measures will go a long way to avoid sagging demand for the consumables and durables; (d) To contain inflation. No specific fiscal or financial measures have been spelt out in the budget and this may attract bitter criticism. But it would be wrong to infer that the problem of containing inflation goes by default. The budgetary deficit of Rs. 1,417 crore is nearly half of what was anticipated. It is left uncovered because, in the words of the Finance Minister, "it will have no significant impact on the economy." It may be noted, in passing, that Rs. 1,000 crore is believed to be the safe limit for deficit financing by Dr D.T. Lakdawala.

(e) To promote exports. The Finance Minister proposes the setting up of Export-import bank to assist the financing of international trade and give thereby the desired boost to the export promotion efforts.

Conclusion: The Union budget for 1980-81 is purposive and is designed to impart a new thrust to the economy. It is expected to bring about a rapid revival and restoration of the economy which jumped off the rails during the period of interregnum. However, the budgetary measures will have to be supplemented with additional decisive steps before the ends of the plan, namely less of poverty, unemployment and economic disparities, could fall within the reach of the 680 million people of the country. It will take many a bold budget to put the economy in a stride.

ECONOMIC SCENE

- Indian Planning
- Oil Price Hike & Economy
- Export and Growth
- Aid Requirements

Indian Planning

Q. If the economy is to be saved from the ruinous course it has taken, what reforms would you advocate in fiscal and planning policies?

Ans. The Indian economy is in a shambles. To restore it to health is a formidable challenge before the nation. The fiscal and planning policies have to be re-formulated and implemented to make the stagnant economy move on the road to prosperity for all. The following reforms are suggested in this connection:

1. Decentralised planning: The centralised planning must be abandoned in favour of decentralised planning. "Central and State politicians relay the rhetoric of decentralisation but resist and undermine any real decentralisation" alleges Professor Raj Krishna, former member of the Planning Commission, and adds that the outlook for any decentralisation may be even bleaker in the future than in the past. Whatever the form of planning, the emphasis has to be continued on self-reliance and removal of poverty and unemployment.

2. Bigger plans: Each plan in the past has been bigger than its predecessor in terms of monetary outlay. The economists in India have recently expressed themselves against any cut-back in investment in real terms. In

fact, they have advocated ten per cent increase in real terms in the plan outlay for the current financial year, 1980-81, over that of the previous year's outlay. According to the final Union budget for 1980-81, the provision for the first year of the five-year plan from 1980-81 to 1984-85 is of the order of Rs. 7340 crore which is 14.5 per cent higher than the original outlay provided in the last year's budget, and is Rs. 767 crore above the outlay budgeted for in the interim budget. If account is taken of the 20 per cent rise in prices, the plan outlay, in real terms, may not be higher than that of annual plan for 1979-80.

3. Tax structure: In our 30 years of planning experience, increased reliance has been placed on internal resources for financing the plans. Tax revenue has been the main source of finance and the indirect taxes have contributed more than the direct taxes. Indirect taxation has risen from 65 per cent to 80 per cent between 1950 and 1979. Fiscal reformists hold that the saturation point has been reached both in direct and indirect taxes. This has led to cascading effect in prices. If inflation is to be contained (as it must be), the direct taxes must be reduced (the income tax ceiling to be 50 per cent) and the indirect taxes rationalised and reduced, wherever possible. They also advo-

cate taxes on the agricultural sector so as to bring about parity between this sector and the industrial sector and also to augment resources from the almost untapped farm sector. It is estimated that tax revenue of the order of Rs. 5,000 crore can be obtained from the agricultural sector by imposing a levy of 10 per cent only.

At the same time, outdated imposts such as octroi duty can be abolished and sales tax combined with the excise duty.

4. VAT: All indirect taxes on the industrial sector should be grouped together under value-added tax which should not exceed 25 per cent.

5. Export growth: Export-oriented industries should receive priority and export promotion measures be intensified. Imports of capital goods should be liberalised and preferred to finished goods.

6. Capacity utilisation: The country has reached a stage where capacity utilization rather than capacity creation should be emphasized for increasing the level of output.

Oil Price Hike & Economy

Q. Discuss the effects on the Indian economy of the recent spate of increases in crude prices by the OPEC members.

Ans. Among the less developed countries (LDCs), India

is one of the most seriously affected (MSA) countries in the wake of the recent spate of oil price hike by the OPEC (Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries).

India's economy has been affected in two ways. First, the price escalation of crude and petroleum products by the OPEC has imparted a cost and price boost to the whole range of goods, but especially the products of the oil-based industries. On the eve of the latest Union budget, the government proclaimed with immediate effect an increase of 65 paise per litre over the basic price of petrol, high speed diesel and light diesel. The kerosene oil and the LPG have been exempted from the new levy. The new price hike is expected to raise the transport costs all round and give a big push to the prices except in cases where subsidy is given to neutralise the price rise, partly or wholly. The fertilisers, for instance, would not have a price rise.

Secondly, the balance of payment situation may deteriorate further. According to the available data, India will import 16 million ton of crude and 6 million ton of petroleum products this year. The import bill will be of the order of Rs. 5,500 crore as against Rs. 3,800 crore in 1979 and a mere Rs. 1,500 crore in 1978. This works out to a stupendous rise of 3-2/3 times within a span of two years. The assumption is that the consumption requirements of 33 million ton of petroleum and petroleum products remain unchanged. Unless the export earnings and accretion to the foreign exchange reserves mount up sharply, the oil price hike will entail very heavy burden on the economy. Not only will the cost of the imported oil go up, but the expenditure on India's imports from the developed countries will also escalate. All

this will strengthen the forces achieved".

Inflation which is already posing a big challenge to the new government. In the case of India, a rise in the price of crude by one dollar per barrel raises the oil product prices by roughly Rs. 200 crore. 'Imported inflation' will buttress the domestic inflation.

Export and Growth

Q. Write a short note on export and growth in the light of the Tandon Committee (interim) report.

Ans. In its interim report, the 13-member Tandon Committee has suggested a stupendous export target of Rs. 17,968 crore for 1990-91 as against the estimated exports of Rs. 7,000 crore in 1980-81. This is a spectacular jump of nearly 250 per cent within the space of a decade or 10 per cent per annum during 1980s. Is it not an over-optimistic target against the background of 5·1 per cent annual rate of growth of exports achieved by India during the seventies? The Committee's target is based on the assumptions (a) that the world exports would rise annually by 5·7 per cent; (b) that India's share in the global exports would go up from the existing miserable low of 0·6 per cent to 0·9 per cent in 1990-91; (c) that supply constraints for exportables are identified and removed to achieve a sustained flow of goods to the foreign markets; (d) that the policy of protection is not tightened further, if it is not relaxed, during the eighties. Should the assumptions turn out to be wrong, the target may be unattainable. All the same, it is maintained that despite the fact that conditions during the eighties are likely to be more difficult than they were at any time during the post-war period, "there is still no real reason why this target should not be

To bring within the feasibility range the Committee target, a suitable export strategy within the framework of development strategy is essential. Also, our export growth rate will be influenced by the world growth rate. If the exports of the world register a higher growth rate, as is likely, the achievement of the export target set for India by the Tandon Committee would, to that extent, be much more feasible.

In short, the realisation of the export target envisaged by the Tandon Committee for 1990-91 will depend upon development at home, the nature and quantum of production for exports, the growth rate of the world exports and the policy of protection.

Aid Requirements

Q. "India has a 'compelling need' for increased aid commitments and disbursements in the coming years" (IBRD). Discuss.

Ans. Zero aid or more aid? At least the World Bank's assessment, contained in its latest report on the Indian economic situation and prospects, is that more aid will be needed. Aid weariness has gripped the West and therefore aid commitments and disbursement flows have slowed down. The Bank anticipates that India's current account deficit in foreign trade would exceed the aid disbursements and the foreign exchange reserves would fall during 1980-81. The reserves may provide the cushion for two more years at the outside if the aid and remittances do not decline sharply and the oil imports do not impinge heavily on the resources. Hence the aid requirements would rise but the aid prospects for the future are bleaker. Unless the yawning

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Should Dalai Lama Return to China ?

Since the Dalai Lama, the Tibetan god-king, came to India in 1959, this country has given him asylum. But lately he and many of his followers have been feeling restless. There is a yearning among most of them to return to Tibet. The new Chinese leadership, on its part, has been assuring them the maximum consideration and inviting them to come back to Tibet. Many factors are involved in this question. The proposition for debate is: "The Dalai Lama should return to Tibet without further delay."

Mr A: Like fish out of water, the Dalai Lama has been feeling totally out of place. He and thousands of his followers have settled in Dharamsala, in Himachal Pradesh. The Tibetans have also settled in various hill regions in the Kulu-Manali area, Dalhousie, the suburbs of Shimla and at other hill stations. But I think the time has come for him to reconsider his programme and policy *vis-a-vis* China. How long can a god-king and a large number of his people live in exile in another country however hospitable and accommodating? The Dalai Lama is a top-rank religious leader, and Tibet is his spiritual headquarters and his mainstay. The palace and the temple his followers have constructed in upper Dharamsala are all in regal style; the tapestries, the ancient Tibetan jewellery and other paraphernalia are all impressive. The Dalai Lama seems to have brought with him, through the assistance of his followers, plenty of wealth, but it is possible that the inflow of wealth has now diminished. The thousands of Tibetans who are now living in India make regular offerings to their god-king and worship him and the very ground he treads. But all the trappings of the Tibetan leader are nothing as compared to the palatial residence in Tibet and the influence he commanded there before his sojourn to India. The desire to return to his ori-

nal home is natural, and the conditions in Tibet are now reported to be far better than they were when he fled his country. The repression and suppression of the Tibetans, the rapid indoctrination, the enslavement of Tibetan labour and the general spread of the Communist ideology are believed to have receded into the background. The Chinese leaders themselves seem anxious that the Dalai Lama should return so that there should be an appearance of normalcy in the Tibetan region of China. The delegation that the Dalai Lama sent to Tibet last year spent some months there and on return submitted a report on the basis of which the god-king was urged to plan a home-coming. I see no reason why he should linger on in India while wishing all the time that he should be able to live in his real home.

Mr B: I am afraid I do not agree with the arguments put forth by my friend, Mr A. The Dalai Lama may occasionally be feeling homesick and bored with his uneventful existence in this country. But would it be wise and proper for him to trust the Chinese and accept the assurances being given to him that he would be granted all the facilities which he was enjoying before his exodus? Let us not forget that the Chinese are clever, untrustworthy people who have often gone back on

their promises and even betrayed the very people who have trusted them and taken them at their word. The Chinese betrayal of India in 1962 is now a part of history; all the talk by Peking leaders of a settlement of the Indo-Chinese border question has proved illusory, and the latest Chinese gesture, made in June, 1980, by a top Chinese leader that the talks for settling the border differences should be conducted on the basis of "actual line of control" means that India is being asked to forget about its commitment to the nation that the seized Indian territory must be won back. Let us also not forget that until 1977 the Chinese leaders were repeatedly denouncing the Dalai Lama as a traitor and boosting the image of his younger brother, the Panchen Lama, as the real Tibetan leader. The brother had in fact become a Chinese stooge, and was said to be "under house arrest, with a food salary", to use the Dalai Lama's own words. The fake Lama did not command even a fraction of the respect and influence associated with the Dalai Lama since his childhood. Moreover, we should note that one of the Tibetan delegations which was sent by the Dalai Lama to Tibet on a probing mission itself expressed some doubts and was not fully satisfied with the conditions in Tibet. The Dalai Lama has now sent another delegation to find out the truth

and to judge whether the conditions are now ripe for his return to Tibet. The Communist ideology is incompatible with religion, it is very unlikely that Peking leaders have suddenly become reconciled to deep spiritualism and will allow the Tibetan god-king to rule over his former kingdom in his homeland. Peking has promised "limited" religious power and authority to the Dalai Lama if he returns home. The word "limited" itself indicates that the Dalai Lama will not have full authority over his people in Tibet. He will presumably be under the overall suzerainty of the Peking leaders. Would that be a tolerable and sufferable state of affairs?

Mr C: My friend, Mr B, does not seem to have taken the realities into consideration while opposing the Dalai Lama's return to Tibet. I would like to emphasise two points besides supporting Mr A, while opening this discussion. First, is it not true that when it is not possible to regain 100 per cent of what one has lost, it would be wise to accept most of one's vanished kingdom? If the choice before the Dalai Lama is to get a substantial part of his autonomy in Tibet and his vast possessions or remain in virtual wilderness, surely it would be good to be pragmatic and not insist on the achievement of one's whole vision. It is futile to hope that the Chinese would give the Dalai Lama anything more than what they are offering him now. The present Chinese leadership seems willing to accommodate him, but it is far from certain whether their successors in Peking will be equally tolerant. The old Tibet of the earlier days of the Lamas will never return; the greater part of Tibet has undergone a virtual transformation during the past two decades, and it would be wrong on the Dalai Lama's part to ask for the

restoration of Tibet as he had left it. The wisest course would be for him to adjust himself to the new realities while the going is good. Secondly, he should be tactful enough to realise that his prolonged stay in India is beginning to tax the limits of hospitality of the Government and the people. For several years after the Dalai Lama's arrival in India the Chinese expressed displeasure over the episode and the grant of asylum to him by India has at times been yet another hurdle in the normalisation of relations (apart, of course, from the question of the vast territory seized by China following its aggression in 1962). In other words, the Dalai Lama has not brought credit to India and is some ways a liability. The Government here has gone out of its way to accommodate the Tibetans, it has spent lakhs of rupees on granting facilities and land, besides food and work, to the Tibetan refugees. It has opened training institutions and schools for Tibetans, spending in the process a part of the Indian taxpayers' money on people who do not contribute to the exchequer in any way. Is it not time the Dalai Lama himself took all these factors into account and planned a return to Tibet, after fulfilling certain formalities and after obtaining the right assurances from the Peking leaders? It is good to learn that he is favourably inclined to the Chinese offer but does not wish to act in a huff. The appearance of reluctance besets a wise leader, but enough is enough.

Mr D: Those who believe that the clock will be put back in Tibet are living in a world far removed from the realities. The cultural ethos of Tibet, which was heartlessly destroyed by the Chinese military machine, is very unlikely to be restored. Whether, as is now alleged by the Peking leaders, the mischief

was done by the notorious "Gang of Four" or by others is beside the point. The havoc has already been done, and for all we know there may be another round of cultural denunciation when there is a change in the party faction in power. Besides, once the Dalai Lama leaves India and settles in Tibet, lured by the assurances by the present Peking leaders, there would be no return. So the decision would be permanent and the die would be cast. If he confines himself to spiritual activity and is willing to reconcile himself to the loss of all his Buddhist and temporal estates and his widely spread out property, not to mention the once-rich monasteries, it is another matter. But it is obvious that he would not find Tibet as he left it or as he would like to see it. Would it not be better for him to allow those of his followers who wish to return to Tibet to do so, and himself wait for some time more before following them? The Government of India has rightly left the decision to the Dalai Lama and it will not ask an honoured guest to quit. It would also be unfair for the Dalai Lama to ignore the demonstrations staged before the Chinese Embassy in Delhi recently to protest against the atrocities perpetrated by the Chinese on the innocent Tibetans. Some people seem to have a vested interest in this matter, and the Dalai Lama had better think a hundred times before he decides to return to ruined Tibet. If the reports of the delegations sent by the Dalai Lama to Tibet (described as the Roof of the world) had been wholly reassuring, there might have been a case for quitting India, but since that is not so, the god-king might as well wait for a more reassuring situation. I feel confident that every rational person will agree with my contention.

Enough is not Enough

Much water has flowed down the Ganges, the Danube, the Nile and the Volga since Mahatma Gandhi laid down the dictum: "The world has enough for every man's need but not for every man's greed." Greed in this wide world has indeed made men and women cross the limits of propriety and also turned them into automations working for money that brings them little peace of mind, or seeking and producing things they do not need. Avarice, a more sophisticated expression for greed, is not only the vice of declining years but is common among people of all ages. A philosopher said long ago: "Poverty wants some things, luxury many, avarice all things."

We may heap up a thousand and one things, but only a few are of actual use to us; we enjoy only as many of them as we can use and no more. The unused things of life, often gathered with much trouble and effort, just accumulate; some of these may serve to promote one's status and social position in life, but, by and large, such superfluous things are a burden. If God were to punish people who hoard things, or merely collect them even though they may be of greater use to others, thousands would suffer the punishment. But luckily for them, greed, avarice and collection of things around oneself are not regarded as crimes, unless of course one adopts illegal means to acquire them.

The irony of it is that greed and avarice are insatiable; rather, avarice feeds upon itself;

the more things one acquires the more the hunger for larger accumulations. The lust itself begins to possess mankind and to hold it in a tight grip. Benedict Spinoza was not wrong when he said that avarice, ambition, lust, etc., are species of madness. The great humorist, Mark Twain, once defined civilisation thus: "It is the limitless multiplication of unnecessary necessities." People in the modern world have begun to regard even motor-cars, refrigerators, TV sets, luxury coaches, five-star hotels and all such articles of luxury available in the markets as necessary for existence. Will there ever be enough for humanity, and will a stage be ever reached when man will say: "I have enough, I do not want any more. Let the surplus be given to poor people or those whose needs are greater or whose means are limited or those who are unable to earn enough to feed themselves or their children."

Some statistics would prove the point that there is a gross maldistribution of the world's possessions and that there is urgent need for a new set-up in which there is a more equitable distribution of wealth and greater economic justice. In other words, there should be a realisation that enough is enough, that one must have a sense of proportion and not be utterly selfish. The developing countries of the world have about 75 per cent of the total global population but only 30 per cent of the world's food-grains, only 8 per cent of the

world's industry and barely 5 per cent of the world's science and technological knowledge. How many people realise that every day more children die in the poor countries than are born in the rich world, but a person born in the richer regions will consume about 30 times as much as a person born in poor countries.

The estimate of the world population by 2000 A.D. indicates that about 5 billion people will be living in the developing countries—Africa, South and South East Asia and Latin America. The world's food output is supposed to be increasing, thanks to the modern farming techniques, and yet in Africa the *per capita* food output declined at an annual rate of 1·3 per cent during the years 1970-77. *Per capita* incomes there have remained among the lowest in the world. During the past many decades, the people in the affluent countries have refused to realise that prosperity and poverty cannot be confined to certain regions for ever; both will overflow and common sense dictates economic justice and a fairer order, a new international economic order, as the common phrase goes.

Is there any doubt that the existing order of things is not geared to meeting the needs of the poor (the world's majority) but for satisfying the needs of the few. If the redistribution of the world's wealth is regarded as impossible (and there may be many practical difficulties in the process) at least the opportunities can be fairly distributed.

Unless economic justice is assured, only half the world's people can live comfortably, with the average standard of life according to European concepts.

If the economic injustices and the glaring disparities were declining and the world were progressing, even belatedly, towards the goals of justice and a better life for the poor masses, humanity could have derived some psychological satisfaction, but the irony is that the glaring disparities are becoming more glaring as the years pass. Just as illiteracy in India and several other relatively poor countries is increasing despite the literacy drives and the substantial money being spent on education schemes, similarly the share of possessions is falling among the poor. We may note in this connection that while 80 years ago an average resident of the richer countries possessed four times as much as a person in the poor world, the ratio now is 40 to 1. The process of economic deterioration is continuing in the vast majority of the countries even as the process of enrichment is being intensified in the richer zones.

There is ostentation, vulgar display, waste and worse on one side, and poverty and destitution on the other. What greater irony can there be, and what more dismal reflection on modern civilisation? Of course there cannot be complete equality, social, economic or political. Some persons will always remain more equal than others even in the perfect and the most well-planned democracy. But surely there can be less economic injustice, less greed and avarice, less cruelty, less deprivation, less of treachery and looting to deprive the relatively poor; in other words, there should be less of exploitation by one human being of another. If, for example, certain standards of life could be prescribed with minor

variations to suit the special circumstances of each region, and if the consumption level could be broadly fixed, there would be less of waste and more of peace and justice in the world. But that is not to be. Injustice and poverty seem destined to be permanent features of life, and we have to live with them.

Spokesmen of the rich point out with some force that, except in the case of those who inherit wealth from their ancestors (those who are born with a silver spoon in their mouths), certain people are well off because they work harder, with greater purpose and more consistently. Two things are needed these days, it is said, first, for rich men to find out how poor men live, and second for poor men to know how rich men work. But this is not always true; in fact the soul-killing disparities between the incomes of people for almost the same amount of work are there for everyone to see. Besides, even if we leave aside the economic aspect, especially because inequality is a widespread phenomenon, there is the humanitarian and social angle. Why is it that the rich and the prosperous do not perform their duty and exercise the privilege of making others happy? No one can become happy for long if others around him are unhappy, just as no one can live alone and happily unless he is a saint or an angel or a mad man; he must live in society, along with others.

Perhaps there is something wrong with our basic approach in life and our basic attitudes. Why are almost all of us utterly selfish, self-seeking and always thinking of our own welfare or of the welfare and prosperity of our children? Countless statesmen and politicians have repeated *ad nauseum* that if we permit extremes of wealth for a few and enduring poverty for the many,

we shall create a social explosiveness and a demand for revolutionary change. But as John Kenneth Galbraith said, few things have been more productive of controversy over the ages than the suggestion that the rich should, by one device or another, share their wealth with those who are in perpetual want. The controversies are very much there; the series of UNCTAD and other conferences and the annual sessions of the United Nations itself prove this. But do the prosperous care? Not a bit. They disclaim all responsibility for the economic disparities even though they, or their forefathers, have exploited the world's poor for centuries.

They forget that of all the riches that we hug closely and to which we cling desperately as if they were our very existence, and that of all the worldly pleasures we enjoy, we can carry no more out of this life into the next than we can out of a vision or dream. They are also unmindful of the fact that the use we make of our fortunes, acquired by fair means or foul, determines its sufficiency. A little may prove enough if used wisely, sagaciously and with the right attitude to life, while too much is a waste and a burden if spent foolishly.

Wisdom, and hence wealth, lies in spending thoughtfully with the utmost consideration for others. Riches in this sense are not worth having without an aptitude for charity; they are a blessing only to him who makes them a blessing for others. Who has not heard that the pride of dying rich and leaving a large fortune behind raises the loudest laugh in hell? To whom indeed can riches and various forms of wealth give repute, contentment or pleasure but to the good, the just, the charitable, the considerate, the human and the reliever of distress and penury?

How to overcome Self-Consciousness?

Self-consciousness is a distressing, negative personality trait which needs to be overcome in the interest of healthy personality development. Physical illness can be painful enough but self-consciousness can be even more so.

What is Self-Consciousness?

Philosophically the term "Self-consciousness" means awareness of one's own existence, thoughts and actions. Psychologically it connotes embarrassment or shyness. A self-conscious person is embarrassed or made theatrical by his inability to forget himself in society. "I dare not talk to a girl", said one young man. Another said, "The boss has only to make an appearance and my tongue goes dry as sand". "The Kapurs are coming to dinner and I feel like running away", said a housewife. "As soon as they appear I feel silly and afraid as if they would swallow me whole". One boy told me "As soon as I appear before an interviewer I am struck all of a heap and am in a sweat".

Such is the predicament of a self-conscious person. He feels that he has two left feet, or that he is unwholesome or unfit for anyone's notice. He looks at the person who is easy and natural in a group and he would wish to be like that person.

An Inter-Personal Response Trait

In any society each person develops a distinctive pattern of inter-personal response traits that characterize his social conduct. These traits are consistent and stable response dispositions that channel the behaviour of an individual in a variety of social situations. Self-consciousness is an inter-personal response trait. Its opposite is social poise. It

reflects the expressive disposition of a person. Its victim feels embarrassed when entering a room where others are seated; he suffers excessively from stage fright; he hesitates to volunteer in a group discussion; he is bothered by people watching him at work; he feels uncomfortable if he is different from others; he feels that he is the greatest fool that ever breathed, and in extreme form he may suffer "torments of the damned" whenever he is exposed to the merciless view of other people.

A Symptom of the Fear of Criticism

Self-consciousness is a major symptom of the fear of criticism generally expressed through nervousness, timidity in conversation and in meeting awkward movement of the hands and limbs, shifting of eyes etc. As a well-known writer puts it, "The fear of criticism robs man of his initiative, destroys his power of imagination, limits his individuality, takes away his self-reliance, and does him damage in a hundred other ways".

How to overcome Self-Consciousness?

Psychologists hold that there are two basic histories behind self-consciousness.

(1) *A Pattern of Embarrassment when Young:* If an infant feels cared for, wanted and loved, he (or she) has no difficulty in being sociable. He feels that his world accepts him and all is well. Should he receive pain-

ful discouragement or be laughed at and made to look foolish or should he feel that no body loves him and he cannot do what others can do, his sense of significance fades out and he is in peril. Love and acceptance would have given him significance and security. Without them he feels that he will not survive. So, as a substitute for the love he is missing he tries desperately to get attention from people to give him an assurance that he still exists.

That is why children are defiant and naughty. Being defiant makes the parent cross and force their enraged attention. Mother's anger assures the child that he still has significance and so he finds that in a way it pays him to be naughty.

Then a further stage is reached. The parents, faced with a defiant and rebellious child, take strong measures. They punish him or threaten him into submission. The child submits. But he is still faced with the old problem of survival. How can he give himself significance? His very submissiveness and worthlessness in facing the parent bring him a peculiar attention and concern. His acute embarrassment in the presence of the grown-ups somehow makes them solicitous about him. He discovers that the more he is embarrassed, the more attention he receives. Instead of punishment he finds concern. This gives him significance. This experience of embarrassment and its reaction on

adult gives him the assurance he needs—that he is a person of significance.

As he grows up, every one he meets is a sort of a parent figure, a giant who threatens to destroy him with a glance. And he is embarrassed, awkward, tongue-tied, and a helpless victim.

This brings him the kind of attention and significance he needs. So he blushes or perspires or turns his head away, or feels tired, immobilized and helpless, and so manages to survive.

If a self-conscious person recognises himself here he may do three things:

(i) He should see clearly that his self consciousness is an unconscious technique he has employed ever since early years to get attention to assure himself he was alive.

(ii) He should learn that he can have significance without being embarrassed. The truth is that he is worth-while, basically good, unquestionably acceptable to himself and to other people.

(iii) Whenever the frightening parent within him tends to reduce him to self-consciousness, that is signal for him instead to know he is loved, acceptable and worthwhile and to be conscious that the other people he meets know it as well.

(2) The second history behind self-consciousness is an early retreat from an intolerable situation. This refers to an experience of shock he endured in the first year of life. An intolerable situation arose in his baby battle for survival and the basic "he" took flight and went into retreat.

This part of him ran, as it were, back to the womb existence and left his shadow-self to carry on as a sort of substitute. The result is that whenever he

meets people he feels he is not in real contact. He feels that the real "he" is not there to meet them at all, but that his shadow-self (his false-self) is playing the part.

A man reportedly said "I am terrified that the other bloke will see I am not a real person at all. It is my facade that speaks. I am just a dressed up dummy and scared that the dummy will suddenly collapse under the strain. That is why I am so self-conscious."

This may be why he feels self-conscious, too. The real he may not in fact participate in life, but simply remain a mute and helpless observer in the background.

The basic "he" that took flight back into hiding when he was baby is still there and leaves the facade, the shadow or the false "he" to face life as best as it can.

If he is to overcome self-consciousness, this basic "he" must be coaxed and persuaded into real life. For this three measures are recommended:

(i) He should practice relaxation every day. When he is sure that he is perfectly easy on his bed, make friends once again with the frightened little creature that so early scurried into hiding, and woo him back to life again. He should tell this little self that he is loved and wanted, cherished and supported; that he has nothing to fear in emerging into life once more.

(ii) He should take one step at a time. He may not expect miracles all at once, but he should try to express his essential self, for a beginning with his closest friends. He should dare to come out with some idea of his very own, try to feel easy and relaxed with those he can trust; forget his tendency either to make an impression or to flee and try to be as spontaneous and natural as possible.

(iii) He should encourage himself to feel loved. This will help him establish his basic self on solid foundation of reality. And as he feels on this love, he will thrive in his innermost being. As that being grows and is satisfied he will gradually find that he is at last able to present a real "he" to the world without self-consciousness.

Don't be Afraid of Criticism

As for the fear of criticism he should realise that "Fears are nothing more than states of mind. One's state and mind is subject to control and direction." He should not be afraid of criticism. As George Seaton puts it, "Any one who can fill out laundry slips thinks of himself as a writer. Anyone who can't fill out a laundry slip thinks of himself as a critic."

Here is how the *Chicago Times* in 1865 evaluated Lincoln's Gettysburg Address in commenting on it the day after its delivery. "The cheek of every American must tingle with shame as he reads the silly, flat, and dishwatery utterances of a man who has to be pointed out to intelligent foreigners as President of the United States." In his "Maximum for Revolutionists" G.B. Shaw aptly says "He who can, does. He who cannot, teaches."

When one goes into an orchard and sees lots of sticks and stones under a tree one knows that tree has borne some fruit. This little observation should be consolation to those who tend to get discouraged under criticism. No one bothers much about throwing verbal brick-bats at people who are doing nothing. The more active and fruitful your life, the more you will receive criticism.

Thus, if a young man goes to a party with the belief that he is shy he will behave as if he is shy and his behaviour will

(Contd. on page 46)

Intelligence TEST

1. What question can never be answered by yes?

2. Sort out the following anagrams. They are all the names of Capitals of countries in Asia, as for example: "A BULK" can be arranged as KABUL, the Capital of Afghanistan:—

- (a) GO ON RAN
- (b) WHEN I LED
- (c) LOCO MOB
- (d) VILE VAT

3. Unscramble the following words according to meanings given against each:—

(a) GATERIM (To settle in another country)

(b) SHDNIIIMI (Become smaller.)

(c) TUUMLA (Shared in common.)

(d) ACACLORH (A black form of carbon.)

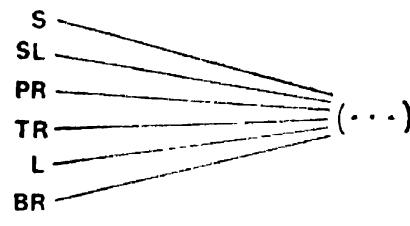
4. The spellings in the words below carry a smaller word (in the normal order) which is a perfect synonym for the bigger word. For example, note how the word FACADE contains, in its normal sequence, the synonym FACE. See how many of the hidden synonyms can you find:—

(a) Deliberate. (b) Pantaloons. (c) Precipitation. (d) Supervisor. (e) Hostelry.

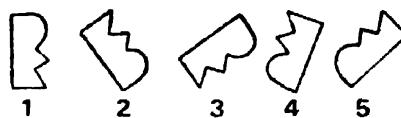
5. Each item defined below can be spelt from the letters contained in the word SCRAPBOOK. See how many you can find. Use a letter in any word only as often as it occurs in SCRAPBOOK.

- (a) Country bumpkin (b) Shovel (c) Crowlike bird (d) Automobile (e) Barrel

6. Find the word-ending which can be prefixed by all of the following:—



7. Find the odd man out.



8. In list A are given the names of some famous men. Match them with their respective nick names given in list B.

List A

- (A) Tagore
- (B) Subhas Chandra Bose
- (C) Jawaharlal Nehru
- (D) Mahatma Gandhi
- (E) Rajagopalachari

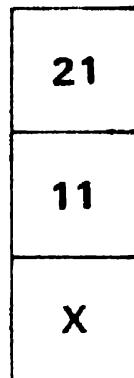
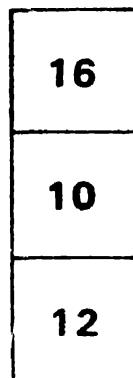
List B

- (a) Netaji

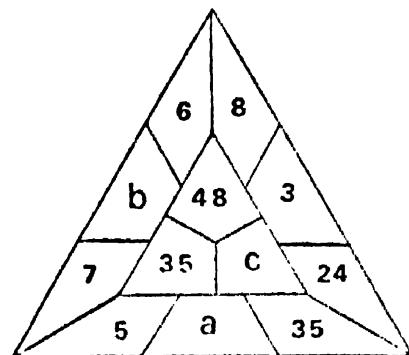
- (b) Chacha
- (c) Gurudev
- (d) "C.R"
- (e) Bapu

9. Raj celebrates his birthday once in four years. On what date and the month it falls?

10. What number should replace x?



11. Find the numbers represented by 'a', 'b' and 'c'.



12. Find the next number.

9 81 729 ...

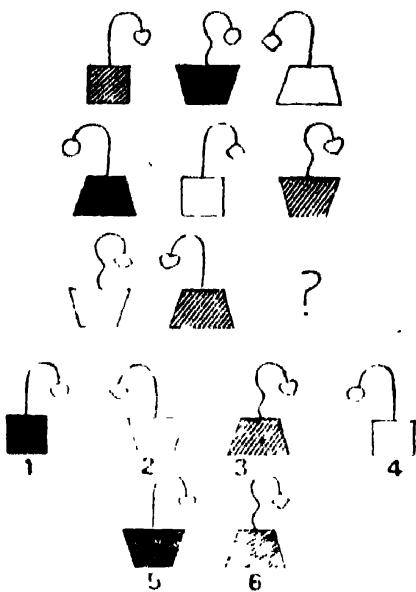
13. Insert the missing number.

$$196 (25) 324 \\ 329 () 137$$

14. Complete the series.

$$18 \ 10 \ 6 \ 4 \ -$$

15. Select the correct figure from the numbered ones.



16. A friend of yours has come by a purse containing over Rs. 1000. It also contains the identity card of the owner. Your friend shows you his find and invites you to go with him to Simla for merry-making. You will:

(a) Accept the invitation gladly because your friend has not stolen.

(b) Decline the invitation on moral grounds.

(c) Advise your friend to return the money to the owner and volunteer to help him find the owner.

(d) Tell him to deposit the purse with the police.

(e) Advise him throw away the purse at the place where it was found.

17. Fill in the blanks:

(a) Foot is to walk as nose is to _____.

(b) Sphere is to circle as is to square.

(c) Had been is to was as is to wrote.

(d) We is to our as they is to _____.

18. The light from the sun is greater at noon than in the morning or evening, because:

(a) The sun is nearer to earth at noon.

(b) The sun is brighter at noon.

(c) The rays of the sun are less oblique at noon than in the morning or evening.

(d) The atmosphere is thinner in the noon than in the morning or evening.

19. Write the serial number of the pair which is different from the others.

(a) Stingy and selfish.

(b) Niggardly and ungenerous.

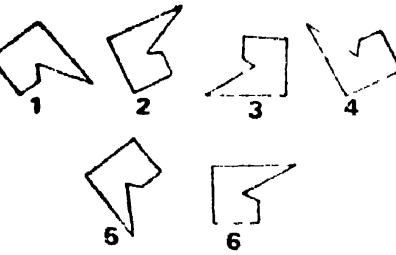
(c) Liberal and charitable.

(d) Miserly and parsimonious.

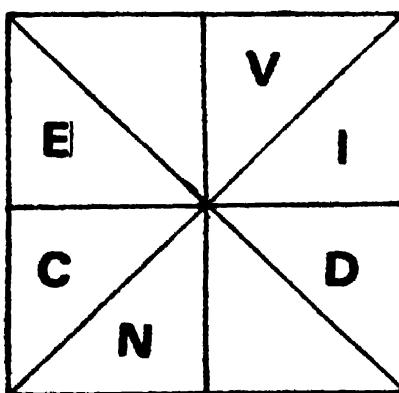
20. Which is the odd man out?

(a) COLA (b) OWOD (c) ECKO (d) LIO (e) LOW (f) TAPE

21. Find the odd man out.



22. Insert the missing letters.



Answers & Explanations

1. Are you asleep?

(a) Rangoon, Capital of Burma (b) New Delhi, Capital of India. (c) Colombo, Capital of Sri Lanka (d) Tel Aviv, Capital of Israel.

3. (a) Migrate (b) Diminish (c) Mutual (d) Charcoal

4. (a) Debate (b) Pants (c) Rain (d) Superior (e) Hotel.

5. (a) Boor (b) Scoop (c) Rook (d) Car (e) Cask

6. ICK.

7. 2. (All the other figures can be rotated into each other.)

8. A-c; B-a; C-b; D-e; E-d.

9. 29th February.

10. 20. (The middle number is subtracted from the upper one, and the remainder doubled.)

11. a 7, b 42, c 840. (7 multiplied by 5 equals 35, 6 multiplied by 7 equals 42, and 24 multiplied by 35 equals 840. Clues for the bottom and left line of the outer triangle are obtained from the right side of the same. Clues for the numbers in the inner triangle are derived from the two adjoining numbers at the corners of the outer triangle.)

12. 6,561. (Each succeeding number is multiplied by 9.)

13. 25. (Add the six digits outside the brackets together.)

14. 3. (Each number is obtained by adding 2 to the previous one, and then dividing by 2; $4+2=6$; 6 divided by 2 = 3.)

15. 1. (There are three kinds of vase, each black, white or shaded; three kinds of stem; and three kinds of flower. Each of these occurs only once in each row or column.)

(Contd. on page 46)

Objective-Type Tests

GENERAL STUDIES

The latest pattern of written papers in the competitive examinations for recruitment in Banking, Civil and Defence Services is based on Objective-Type Tests.

Answers are given at the end of this feature. Look to the answers only after you have yourself solved all the questions.

Work as fast and as carefully as you can.

Tick-mark the correct choice.

More than one choice can be correct.

1. Miss Lorraine Gaye McGrady, a blue-eyed fashion model who has been crowned "Miss Asia 1980" belongs to:

- (a) Australia
- (b) Indonesia
- (c) Sri Lanka

2. Who, among the following, is author of the novel "Tropic of Cancer":

- (a) Henry Miller
- (b) George Bernard Shaw
- (c) Nirad C. Chaudhury

3. Masayoshi Ohira, former Prime Minister of Japan (who died on June 12, 1980), is regarded as the architect of the normalisation of relations between:

- (a) Japan and N. Korea
- (b) Japan and China
- (c) Japan and the U.S.A.

4. Kwangju is the provincial city in:

- (a) South Africa
- (b) North Korea
- (c) South Korea

5. The Russian space-ship Soyuz-36 was manned by cosmonauts from:

- (a) USSR and Hungary
- (b) USSR and GDR (East Germany)
- (c) USSR and Poland

6. Pioneer Venus-I, the US unmanned spacecraft has recently mapped huge continent sized uplifts, deep rift valleys, mountains as high as Everest and giant shallow craters of the planet:

- (a) Venus
- (b) Jupiter
- (c) Saturn

7. Who is the first non-Chinese to reach the top of the world's highest peak, Mt Everest, from the Tibetan side:

- (a) Tenzing
- (b) Nawang Gombu
- (c) Yasuo Kato

8. In the 1980-81 Budget, the income-tax exemption limit has been raised to:

- (a) Rs. 10,000
- (b) Rs. 12,000
- (c) Rs. 15,000

9. The wealth-tax exemption limit, according to 1980-81 Budget, has been raised from Rs. one lakh to:

- (a) Rs. 1.25 lakhs
- (b) Rs. 1.50 lakhs
- (c) Rs. 2.00 lakhs

10. In the 1980-81 Budget, wealth-tax on farm income (except on certain plantations) has been:

- (a) imposed
- (b) withdrawn
- (c) not touched

11. What is the name of the 3rd Indian Satellite to be launched with the European assistance?

- (a) Ariane
- (b) Apple
- (c) Bhaskara III
- (d) INSAT

12. On which river is the Bhakra Dam built?

- (a) Ganges
- (b) Sutlej
- (c) Yamuna

13. With which game is Merdeka Trophy associated?

- (a) Hockey
- (b) Football
- (c) Volleyball

14. Which is the popular dance of Kerala?

- (a) Kathak
- (b) Kathakali
- (c) Kuchipudi

15. The total number of Union Territories in India is:

- (a) 17
- (b) 22
- (c) 9

16. The young Ramesh Krishnan won the junior title in:

- (a) Lawn Tennis
- (b) Table Tennis
- (c) Badminton

17. Which is the Satellite Launching Station in India?

- (a) Sriharikota
- (b) Visakhapatnam
- (c) Thumba

18. The number of members of the U.N.O. is in the range of:

- (a) 141 to 149
- (b) 151 to 159
- (c) 161 to 169

19. At which place in India are the locomotives built?

- (a) Pimpri
- (b) Chittaranjan
- (c) Kharakvasla

20. In which State the elections to Parliament and State Assemblies were held together in January, 1980?

- (a) Sikkim
- (b) Manipur
- (c) Arunachal Pradesh
- (d) Nagaland

21. Which is the first month according to the Indian National Calendar?

- (a) Phalgun
- (b) Sawan
- (c) Chaitra
- (d) Baisakh

22. Cusec is a unit of:

- (a) Water
- (b) Sound
- (c) Velocity of water
- (d) Force

23. Decibel is a unit of:

- (a) Loudness of sound
- (b) Energy
- (c) Wave-length of light

24. Where is the National Meteorology Observatory situated?

- (a) Jaipur
- (b) Delhi
- (c) Bangalore

25. What is the term of Rajya Sabha?

- (a) 2 years
- (b) 5 years
- (c) 6 years
- (d) none of these

26. Silent Valley, the controversial project, is a:

- (a) Thermal Plant
- (b) Multipurpose Project
- (c) Aforestation Project
- (d) Hydro-electric Project

27. The Nobel Prize winner of 1979 for medicines are:

(a) a physician and a chemist

- (b) a chemist and a doctor
- (c) a scientist and a doctor
- (d) a doctor and a chemist

28. What is the Parliament of Germany known for?

- (a) Kenesset
- (b) Diet
- (c) Congress
- (d) None of these

29. Which of the following does not belong to the same class?

- (a) Saturn
- (b) Earth
- (c) Mars
- (d) Venus
- (e) Moon

30. The Voyager-I space-craft is now on its way towards:

- (a) Earth
- (b) Saturn
- (c) Mars
- (d) Jupiter

31. Where was the International Film Festival held in January, 1979?

- (a) New Delhi
- (b) Madras
- (c) Bangalore
- (d) Bombay
- (e) None of these

32. Of the following, whose birth centenary was held in 1979?

- (a) Einstein
- (b) Dr Zakir Hussain
- (c) Dr Hargobind Khorana
- (d) Dr Rabindra Nath Tagore

33. The winner of the Padma Vibhushan Award for 1980 for music plays on:

- (a) Shehnai
- (b) Sarod
- (c) Sitar
- (d) Sarangi

34. What is the territorial limits in Sea for India?

- (a) 12 nautical miles
- (b) 200 nautical miles
- (c) 8 nautical miles
- (d) 5 nautical miles

35. Anniversary of which of the following inventions has been celebrated recently?

- (a) Wireless
- (b) Telephone
- (c) Teleprinter
- (d) Incandescent electric bulb

36. The Ayurved has its origin in:

- (a) Yajur Veda
- (b) Sam Veda
- (c) Rig Veda
- (d) Atharva Veda

37. In which field Lachhu Maharaj popularised himself?

- (a) Dance
- (b) Drama
- (c) Art
- (d) Music

38. What was the reason of the boycott of the Moscow Olympics by the U.S.A.?

- (a) Soviet intervention in Afghanistan
- (b) Soviet-China tension
- (c) Soviet help to Kampuchea

ANSWERS

1. (a)	2. (a)
3. (b)	4. (c)
5. (a)	6. (a)
7. (c)	8. (b)
9. (b)	10. (b)
11. (d)	12. (b)
13. (b)	14. (b)
15. (c)	16. (a)
17. (a)	18. (b)
19. (b)	20. (b)
21. (c)	22. (c)
23. (a)	24. (b)
25. (d)	26. (d)
27. (c)	28. (d)
29. (e)	30. (b)
31. (a)	32. (a)
33. (a)	34. (b)
35. (d)	36. (d)
37. (a)	38. (a)

34. What is the territorial limits in Sea for India?

- (a) 12 nautical miles
- (b) 200 nautical miles
- (c) 8 nautical miles
- (d) 5 nautical miles

Objective-Type Tests

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Look to the answers at the end only after you have yourself solved all the questions.

Work as fast and as carefully as you can.

Q. I. A mistake occurs in each of the following sentences. Indicate the part in which it occurs.

(a) You may go to the pictures now and then (1) but I dislike you going there (2) like a cine-addict (3).

(b) I discovered to my great horror (1) that the man on whom I had reposed my trust (2) betrayed it and decamped with my money (3).

(c) Being a rainy day (1) we preferred to stay in-doors (2) playing cards and drinking coffee (3).

(d) The train arrived two hours late (1) and the driver was determined (2) to make up for delay (3).

(e) He was very proud of his five sons (1) who, when he died, (2) started quarrelling between themselves (3).

(f) Quite a large number of politicians (1) whom we know are honest and selfless (2) have decided to stay away from elections (3).

(g) On the basis of my two-year acquaintance (1) I can say that he is as proud, (2) if not prouder, than his father (3).

(h) Scarcely had he left our house (1) than a policeman arrived (2) and began inquiring into his antecedents (3).

(i) When Kabir died, his disciples, both Hindu as well as

Moslem (1) gathered round his dead body, (2) disputing whether to bury or cremate him (3).

(j) I have travelled all over the world (1) and I can assert that the scenery of Kashmir (2) is lovelier than Switzerland (3).

(k) The Times has reported (1) that no less than fifty passengers (2) have perished in the ship-wreck (3).

(l) Such reckless spending (1) either will take you to the workhouse (2) or to the mental hospital (3).

Q. II. Choose the appropriate alternative.

(a) Wherever he went Rip Van Winkle always had a throng of ragged urchins—.

1. on his heels
2. at his heels
3. over his heels

(b) After a good deal of discussion and argument about what they should have for breakfast, they settled—.

1. on bacon and eggs
2. for bacon and eggs
3. over bacon and eggs

(c) I put it—that you knew the signature was forged.

1. to you
2. before you
3. into you

(d) It goes without saying that the person who will get the position is the one whose views —those of the committee.

1. coincide

2. coincide in

3. coincide with

(e) If you have a long journey to go, it relieves the tedium to have a companion—.

1. to talk

2. to talk with

3. to talk to

(f) Regarding our plans for the future, all I can say is that we shall take whatever opportunity arises—our activities

1. to expand

2. for expanding

3. in expanding

(g) We were pretty near giving up the search as hopeless, when we—a clue.

1. came to

2. came upon

3. came by

(h) You are foolish to have turned down such an offer as that; many people would have jumped—.

1. at it

2. for it

3. on it

(i) We were given the alternative of paying outright or spreading the payment—of two years.

1. on a period

2. across a period

3. over a period

(j) It was unfortunate that I had mislaid the papers, but he need not have made such a fuss —.

1. for it

2. over it
3. about it

Q. III. With the help of its meaning given within brackets at the end of the sentence, complete the word in each sentence.

(a) The few dollars he took home every week were barely enough for the family's subs—ence. (maintenance).

(b) He kept us laughing with his fac—ous remarks. (comical).

(c) The circus cav—ade marched around the ring before the show. (procession).

(d) Now, before interest rates increase, would be an opp—ne time to buy a new house. (suitable).

(e) The ruler's lic—ous practices led to a popular uprising. (irresponsible).

Q. IV. Fill in the gap with a word opposite in meaning to the one in *italics*.

(a) If *prosperity* gains friends — tries them.

(b) The *victories* of King John were more like—.

(c) I have yet to learn whether he was *acquitted* or—.

(d) Hypocrisy is the homage that vice pays to—.

(e) Neither a *borrower* nor a—be.

(f) I *differ* with you but — with your brother.

(g) We shall appeal from Philip *drunk* to Philip—.

(h) To err is *human*, to forgive—.

(i) He who has never made a—can never make a *friend*.

(j) *Honour* and — from no condition rise.

Q. V. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions at the end.

The true objection to sport is the one taken by that wise and

justly famous Puritan who objected to bear-baiting not because it gave pain to the bear but because it gave pleasure to the spectators. He rightly saw that it was not important that we should be men of pleasure and that it was enormously important that we should be men of honour. What the bear would have said if it had had any say in the matter can only be conjectured. Its captors might have argued that if they could not have made money by keeping it alive while taking it to England to be baited, they would have killed it at sight in the Pyrenees; so that it owed several months of life, with free board and lodging to the institution of bear-baiting. The bear might have replied that if it had not been for the bear pit in England they would never have come to hunt for it in the Pyrenees, where it could have ended its days in a free and natural manner. Let us admit for the sake of a quiet life that the point is disputable. What is not disputable by any person who has ever seen sport of this character is that the man who enjoys it is degraded by it. We do not bait bears now (I do not quite know why); but we course rabbits in the manner described in one of the essays in this book. I lived for a time on the South slope of the Hog's Back; and every Sunday morning rabbits were coursed within ear-shots of me. And I noticed that it was quite impossible to distinguish the cries of the sportsmen, although ordinarily the voice of a man is no more like the voice of a dog than like the voice of a nightingale. Sport reduced them all, men and terriers alike, to a common denominator of bestiality. The sound did not make me more humane; on the contrary, I felt that if I were an irresponsible despot with a park of artillery at my disposal, I should (especially after seeing the sportsmen on their way to and from

their sport) have said "These people have become sub-human, and will be better dead. Be kind enough to mow them down for me."

(George Bernard Shaw)

Notes

Pyrenees: mountain range between France and Spain.

Hog's Back: the name of a ridge with a sharp crest and abruptly sloping sides.

q. 1. Which of the following is the most appropriate title to the passage:

(a) Bear-baiting in England

(b) Animal sport and man's degradation

(c) Torturing animals for sport

q. 2. Shaw objects to bear-baiting because:

(a) it gives pain to the animal

(b) it gives pleasure to the spectators

(c) it brutalizes the spectators

q. 3. Shaw says that he would have ordered the killing of the sportsmen because:

(a) they were cruel

(b) he believes in tit for tat

(c) they had become sub-human

q. 4. Put in direct speech the imaginary dialogue between the bear and its captors.

q. 5. Explain the sentence "Sport reduced them all, men and terriers alike, to a common denominator of bestiality".

q. 6. Arrange the following sentences in the order of their approximation to the central idea of the passage:

(a) It was enormously important that we should be men of honour.

(b) Sport reduced them all, men and terriers alike to a common denominator of bestiality

(Contd. on page 37)

Objective-Type Tests

EVERYDAY SCIENCE

Look to the answers at the end only after you have yourself solved all the questions.

Work as fast and as carefully as you can.

Tick-mark the correct answer out of the choices given.

1. Which metal is important in the manufacture of paints?

- (a) iron
- (b) zinc
- (c) lead
- (d) copper

2. If distilled water for a storage battery cannot be easily obtained, the most satisfactory substitute would be:

- (a) rain water
- (b) well water
- (c) lake water
- (d) tap water

3. Indicate which of the following methods could be used to render hard water soft:

- (a) filtration
- (b) coagulation
- (c) chlorination
- (d) distillation

4. If the specific gravity of a substance is 0.5, it will:

- (a) float more than half out of water
- (b) float half submerged
- (c) float completely submerged
- (d) sink

5. The spark test is used to test for the presence of:

- (a) nitrogen
- (b) carbon dioxide
- (c) helium
- (d) oxygen

6. The column of mercury in a barometer at the top of a mountain stands at 66 cm. The height of the mountain is:

- (a) 300 metres
- (b) 600 metres
- (c) 900 metres
- (d) 1000 metres

7. Of the following devices, the one which depends on atmospheric pressure is:

- (a) air gun
- (b) suction cup
- (c) bicycle pump
- (d) door check

8. The temperature to which air must be cooled to give a relative humidity of 100% is called its:

- (a) saturation value
- (b) condensation point
- (c) dew point
- (d) absolute humidity

9. A body immersed in water is buoyed up by a force equal to:

- (a) its weight in air
- (b) its weight in water
- (c) the weight of the displaced water
- (d) none of these

10. It is unsafe for a submarine to descend to a depth greater than about 100 m. because of the:

- (a) absence of light
- (b) great pressure
- (c) danger from sea monsters
- (d) lack of oxygen

11. Soil is formed by:

- (a) erosion
- (b) action of bacteria
- (c) weathering
- (d) cultivation

12. Clay soil is called a "cold soil" because it:

- (a) dries slowly
- (b) dries rapidly
- (c) contains fine particles
- (d) cakes readily

13. Dry farming is accomplished by:

- (a) irrigation
- (b) drainage
- (c) mulching
- (d) rotation of crops

14. Pulverised bone is an important natural source of:

- (a) calcium
- (b) potassium
- (c) phosphorus
- (d) nitrogen

15. In the nitrogen cycle, denitrifying bacteria convert nitrogen compounds into:

- (a) waste products
- (b) free nitrogen
- (c) plant protein
- (d) animal protein

16. Fertilised eggs of mammals usually develop in the:

- (a) ovary
- (b) placenta
- (c) umbilical cord
- (d) uterus

17. Jumping at a sudden noise is an example of a:

- (a) habit

(b) simple reflex
 (c) conditioned reflex
 (d) voluntary reflex

18. The liver can be stimulated to release stored sugar by :
 (a) a decrease in thyroxin
 (b) a decrease in adrenalin
 (c) an increase in adrenalin
 (d) an increase in insulin

19. Which animal produces the smallest mature egg?
 (a) whale
 (b) frog
 (c) turtle
 (d) fish

20. A person who has had his gall bladder removed may be expected to have some difficulty in his:
 (a) absorption of minerals
 (b) digestion of fats
 (c) excretion of urea
 (d) storage of glycogen

21. If the earth's axis were not inclined, we would have no:
 (a) day and night
 (b) change of seasons
 (c) eclipses
 (d) phases of the moon

22. Before water droplets in clouds can fall as rain or snow, they must grow to about:
 (a) 100 times their normal size
 (b) 10 microns
 (c) 100 microns
 (d) 0.0001 cm.

23. The amount of rainfall which would be equal to 75 cm. of fluffy snow would most likely be:
 (a) 40 cm.
 (b) 5 cm.
 (c) 15 cm
 (d) 75 cm

24. Methods of artificially producing rain by "cloud seeding" are based on our knowledge of how:
 (a) clouds form
 (b) ice crystals grow
 (c) cloud droplets coalesce
 (d) fog is formed

25. Which one of the following forms of precipitation is not like the others?

(a) drizzle
 (b) snow
 (c) hail
 (d) sleet

Increases (I); Decreases (D); Remains the same (RS)

26. When an atomic bomb is exploded, the total mass—.

27. When pig iron is converted into steel, the percentage of carbon in iron—.

28. As light enters a denser medium from a rarer medium, its frequency—.

29. When an object is moved from 2F toward F, the size of the image—.

30. If the index of refraction of the lens increases, then the focal length of the lens—.

Explain

31. What are the dangers of fallout?

32. Suppose that your bedroom, which is also a study room, is being redecorated. What should be the colours of the walls?

33. It has been suggested that the wind shields of cars and the headlights be made of Polaroid glass. List any advantages in the use of this material.

34. If you step two feet closer to a plane mirror, how much closer do you appear to be to your image?

35. Why are electric floor lamp shades and light bulbs designed to diffuse light?

True-False Tests

Directions: Indicate whether each of the following statements is true or false. If false, supply the word or words which must be substituted for the term in italics to make it correct.

(a) About 25% of the earth's crust is the element silicon.

(b) The most abundant metal in the earth's crust is iron.

(c) *Slate* is an example of metamorphic rock.

(d) To extract a metal from its ore, the ore must be *roasted*.

(e) There is no limit to the size of a *hydrogen* bomb.

Fill in the blanks

37. Suggest the word or words required to complete each of the following statements.

(a) Minerals are divided into three main classes—, —, and —.

(b) Areas that are set aside for wildlife to live and breed in safety are known as— or —.

(c) Three main sources of water pollution are —, —, and —.

(d) A type of material now being widely used as a substitute for some metals is—.

(e) All our crops depend for their growth on a thin layer of soil known as the—.

Test your knowledge

38. Chemical cells can be used to produce ¹. In a dry cell, the cathode is made of ² and the anode is made of ³. The negative charges are produced by the chemical action on the ⁴ plate. The storage cell is made up of ⁵ plates in an electrolyte of ⁶ acid. Its advantage is that it can be ⁷. The decomposition of a compound by an electric current is called ⁸. In electroplating the solution must contain the ⁹ ion and the ¹⁰ plate must be the plating metal.

Scientific Abbreviations and Vocabulary

39. (a) tachometer (b) fin
 (c) aileron (d) A.U. (e) A.C. (f) D.C.

ANSWERS

1. (c) 2. (a)
3. (d) 4. (b)
5. (d) 6. (c)
7. (b) 8. (c)
9. (c) 10. (b)

11. (c) 12. (a)
 13. (c) 14. (c)
 15. (b) 16. (d)
 17. (b) 18. (c)
 19. (a) 20. (b)
 21. (b) 22. (a)
 23. (b) 24. (a)
 25. (a) 26. D
 27. D 28. RS
 29. I 30. D

31. Fallout contains radioactive materials which contaminate the food and water. Excessive fallout following a bomb used for the destruction of cities would give off sufficient radiation to kill animals and people exposed directly to it.

32. Unless the room has an abundance of light, the colours should be light pastel shades.

33. Polaroid glass has an advantage since you can see past an oncoming car because the light from its headlights would be reduced by your windshield. It would also reduce the glare from the highway on bright days.

34. When you move two feet, the image moves two feet, You are four feet closer to your image.

35. The diffusion of light gives a softer light and prevents glare.

36. (a) true
 (b) true
 (c) true
 (d) reduced
 (e) true

37. (a) metals, non-metals and fuels
 (b) sanctuaries, refuges
 (c) household sewage, factories and ships
 (d) plastics
 (e) loam

38. 1. electricity
 2. zinc
 3. carbon
 4. zinc
 5. lead
 6. sulphuric
 7. recharged

8. electrolysis
 9. metal
 10. positive
 39. (a) An instrument in the plane for registering the number of revolutions per minute.
 (b) A part at the rear of an

airplane which holds the aircraft in a straight course.

(c) Two long, narrow flaps that are hinged to the rear edges of the wings.

(d) Astronomical Unit
 (e) Alternating Current
 (f) Direct Current

Objective-Type Tests—English Language

(Contd. from page 34)

(c) The man who enjoys it (sport) is degraded by it

(Question IV)

ANSWERS

(Question I)

(a) 2 (I dislike your going)
 (b) 2 (in whom I had reposed my trust)

(Question V)

(c) 1 (It being a rainy day)
 (d) 3 (to make up for the delay)

q. 1. (b)

(e) 3 (quarrelling among themselves)

q. 2. (c)

(f) 2 (who we know are honest)

q. 3. (c)

(g) 2 (he is as proud as)
 (h) 2 (when a policeman arrived)

q. 4. Captors: "Mr Bear, if we could not make money by keeping you alive while taking you to England to be baited, we should have killed you at sight in the Pyrenees. You, therefore, owe several months of life with free board and lodging to the institution of bear-baiting."

(i) 1 (both Hindu and Moslem) or (Hindu as well as Moslem)
 (j) 3 (is lovelier than that of Switzerland)

Bear: Gentlemen, if it had not been for the bear-pit in England you should never have come to hunt for me in the Pyrenees where I should have ended my days in a free and natural manner.

(k) 2 (no fewer than fifty passengers)
 (l) 2 (will take you either to the workhouse)

(Question II)

(a) 1 (b) 2
 (c) 1 (d) 3
 (e) 3 (f) 2
 (g) 2 (h) 1
 (i) 3 (j) 3

(Question III)

(a) subsistence (b) facetious
 (c) cavalcade (d) opportune
 (e) licentious

q. 5. Animal sports like bear-baiting and coursing of rabbits make beasts even of men who raise cries as loud as the hunted animals.

q. 6. (c), (b), (a)

MODEL PARAGRAPHS

Paragraph-writing is one of the compulsory questions in many of the higher-grade competitive examinations. Thoughts in certain well-known quotations are required to be developed into suitable paragraphs. Some examples are given hereunder.

Wars usually begin ten years before the first shot is fired.

A volcanic eruption is no sudden phenomenon. For months and years lava goes on accumulating and then spurts out of the crater. Likewise wars do not erupt as if by a magic wand. A number of causes, conflict of political ideologies, trade rivalries, territorial disputes and expansionist ambitions exercise their cumulative effect and prepare the powder-magazine. Then there is the immediate cause which ignites the magazine. The first world war broke out in 1914 over the assassination of Arch-Duke Ferdinand of Austria but as a matter of fact the fires had been smouldering over the years. The phenomenal rise of Germany as an industrial nation had posed a threat to England and France and any stick was considered good enough to beat the German dog. If not the assassination, some other pretext could have been fabricated. So also in the second World War. It came in 1939 with Hitler's invasion of Poland. But long before this Hitler had been itching for a confrontation with the Allied Powers, England and France, who had imposed such humiliating terms on Germany at the end of the first World War. Hitler tore all treaties and pacts to shreds. England tried to appease Hitler, but there is a limit. England had to jump into the fray. No war but has its roots in the past.

The voice of the people is the voice of humbug.

(W.T. Sherman 1863)

It was the day when Jesus Christ was to be crucified. Thousands of Jews had gathered at the Calvary to witness the scene. Incidentally the day also happened to be one on which the governor used to release one prisoner with the consent of the people. When they were asked to choose for this act of mercy between Jesus and a dacoit, with one voice they voted for the dacoit. They plumped for a common felon in preference to the holiest, the greatest and the noblest of men. The voice of the people is not the voice of God but the voice of Satan. Carlyle divided mankind into two classes, the unwise many and the wise few, and the wise few cry in the wilderness. People in the mass are swayed by the lowest common multiple of their intelligence. Any unscrupulous orator, be he a monomaniac like Hitler, a megalomaniac like Napoleon or a man-monster like Idi Amin, can play on their hearts as an expert musician can play on his instrument. They would deify him and kow-tow to him. Let but a few years pass and they would take the same delight in killing him as they did in applauding him.

The Muse is a teacher, not a trickster.

(Frank Norris 1870-1902)

Poetry has been, more often than not, looked upon as an

escape from life. Much of Urdu and Persian poetry, romantic poetry of England and America and even Hindi court poetry is sensuous and erotic burning incense at the altar of wine and beauty. If the whole function of poetry were to inveigh or decoy the reader into forgetfulness, poets might as well be purveyors of drugs and soporifics. Poetry has a more positive function to perform. It is not an escape from life; it is an escape into life. The poet must give a vision of a better and happier world and exhort the reader to rebuild the existing world after the envisioned pattern. Plato was such a poet and created an imaginary Republic. More did the same job in his Utopia. Likewise Butler created Erewhon. The great poet looks far ahead into an El Dorado and fetches a golden apple for human beings to dream upon and relish. A divine discontent with the existing order is created and that discontent is the proper climate for a change. The Muse of poetry is thus a teacher, a trumpet that sings to battle. Poets are the unacknowledged legislators of the world.

All progress has resulted from people who took unpopular positions.

(Adlai Stevenson 1954)

It is no easy job to take up a position which challenges current prejudices or threatens the

(Contd. on page 40)

1. The Use and Abuse of Leisure

The demand for a five-day week stemming from the general desire for more leisure naturally compels attention on the ways this increased leisure is being, or will be, utilized. The old slogans "Work is worship", "Life is action, not contemplation", "One should drink life to the lees" are being dismissed as cant. They are myths, it is said, deliberately fostered by the exploiting employers and blood-sucking capitalists who intent on, and in full possession of, abundant leisure would preach the gospel of work to others. It is being described as a case of brazen-faced hypocrisy.

Modern industry with its divisions and sub-divisions of labour demands specialization. A factory or mill-worker goes on repeating the same process or manipulation, whether it is drawing the thread or cutting the sole or scrutinizing the campa-cola bottle. Such a job is naturally monotonous and therefore tedious. It is therefore necessary to reduce the duration of this tedium. In the older pattern of cottage industry the worker went on diversifying his work. It was cutting the sole, followed by shaping the body of the shoe, stitching and polishing, all done by the same worker. The village shoemaker was, in the very nature of things a complete shoe-artist. The job had varying complexities and postures and variety

relieved boredom. Time did not hang heavy on the worker as it does today. Governments and sensible employers are alive to the implications of present-day industry and besides reducing the hours of work, congenial environment, engendered by the installation of radio-sets in the factories, is being increasingly stressed.

That is good so far as it goes. But unfortunately leisure is looked upon as absence of work which is not so. Much of the leisure that the worker has gained is being spent in drinking, gambling, dancing, pictures, circus and so forth. Energy is being frittered away and the doors of the intellect are closed for ever. Only a handful of them would employ their leisure for their mental, or professional betterment. There is no ambition. He was born a spinner and will die a spinner. The rest is only "sound and fury" signifying nothing.

Leisure is a two-edged weapon. Properly handled it leads on to fortune. Otherwise the voyage of life is bound in shallows and in miseries. Give Newton plenty of leisure and he will extend the boundaries of human knowledge. Give leisure to Kant and he will build a perfect system of philosophy. But the leisure given to criminals and unsocial elements will undermine law and order. Satan will be let loose on society. We are

great to the extent to which we use our leisure. During winter when cottages were snow-bound and movement outside was difficult, the Kashmiri had enforced leisure. He used it to do embroidery, wood-carving and carpet-making and made an impact on the world. The monks of the middle ages had plenty of leisure, and made full use of it in sculpture, architecture and painting which made Rome the envy of the world.

As against this, the Indian farmer had good six months of leisure before the harvest was ready. During these months he gained nothing but bodily growth. And with that came family feuds, vendetta, litigation and crime.

We bemoan educated unemployment. Millions of our graduates trudge from pillar to post in search of a petty job and come home frustrated. They have never applied their mind how best to utilize this enforced leisure. They can learn some small trade or calling, industry or lathe-work. If they take to it sincerely and conscientiously their leisure will become productive. They will no longer be drags or burdens on society. They will be honest and self-respecting citizens. When asked to define happiness, Shaw remarked that it is being so busy that we have no time to think whether we are happy or otherwise.

2. The Spirit of Youth

Among all the tributes that were paid to the departed leader Shri Sanjay Gandhi none was

more true, none more poignant than that it was the spirit of youth which had been nipped

while it was flowering. Whom the gods love die young. There was a fire in him which would

not let him rest. He might have committed mistakes and no man is infallible, but the mistakes were those of inexperience. It is the price one has to pay for being impetuously dynamic, with courage and convictions and the courage of those convictions.

The spirit of youth is untamed and ungovernable. It throws caution and prudence to the winds. It jumps headlong into dangers. Raging seas and terrific winds instead of daunting this spirit goad it all the more to action. It defies the devil itself. When Napoleon asked his old generals to scale the Alps they, all very much experienced and prudent, submitted that it was impossible. Napolean, rather provoked, retorted, "The word 'impossible' was written in the Dictionary of Fools" (and old men, he might have added). Napoleon the youthful hero led the van and the Alps was scaled.

Old age is too careful and cautious. It calculates the risks and counts the cost. Like the old Bachelor it looks before it leaps and then never leaps. No great achievement, in the sky or in the seas was ever made by shunning risks. The Everest could never have been conquered, the Poles could never have been reached, deserts and forests could never have been explored if the spirit of youth had not impelled men and women. Death stared them in the face every now and then, starvation dogged them, bodily discomforts and diseases invaded them, but this spirit led them on to victory. Old age sat on the shore, considering and magnifying the risks involved and this paralysed their will. They took pride in their prudence and sanity little realizing that sanity is very often synonymous with senility.

The world has heretofore been ruled by old men. And what a mess they have made of

it. There is hunger, poverty, disease and suffering. Life is a hell for more than half of mankind. Every twenty years or so, terrible and devastating wars are let loose on earth creating more problems and complicating old ones. The grey-haired sign treaties and pacts which contain within themselves the seeds of future wars. Even while the devil-dance of war was going on and thousands of young men duped by the slogans and promises of the scheming politicians were sacrificing their lives, the armament-magnates who were the masters of the show, were counting the dollars they had amassed and devising ways and means how to prolong the devil-dance.

The youth of the world have seen through the designs of the chicanerous politicians who are in collusion with the dollar-barons. The spirit of youth revolts at all this and all over the world there is a keen desire to "grasp this sorry scheme of

things and shatter it to bits". A new civilisation is sought to be erected on the ashes of the old. In this new order man will be linked to man by the silken cords of love and not by bonds of paper.

All over the world the spirit of youth is straining at the leash. Only in India the dead-weight of the past is acting as a hurdle. The words of Swami Vivekanand, a true Hindu who understood and preached what is best in our past, are relevant even today "My hope of the future is in the youths of this country, youths of character and intelligence, renouncing everything for the service of others; who can sacrifice their lives in working out my ideas and doing good to themselves and to the country at large".

Youth is the time to go flashing from one end of the world to the other, both in mind and body.

MODEL PARAGRAPHS

(Contd. from page 38)

existing political and social order. The challenger is sure to invite trouble and he knows it. But he takes courage in both hands and hurls defiance at the citadel of orthodoxy and obscurantism. Socrates raised his banner of revolt against blind faith and advocated the sovereignty of reason. The authorities scented danger in this attitude and he was given a cup of poison. The man died but by that he put Greek civilization on the new track of logic and reason, a track which has opened up vistas of tremendous progress in social sciences. In

the field of physical sciences men like Copernicus, Galileo and Bruno had to endure untold suffering and torture only because they had the courage to proclaim the truths of Astronomy. The Inquisition might well boast of gagging them but a trail had been blazed which in three centuries shone with miracles of technology and industry. Mankind has gained because these lofty souls endured pains. The little man is a timid man and dare not go against the current but the great man has the courage of his convictions.



SPORTS

ATHLETICS

World Records: Displaying remarkable skill, speed and stamina, Olga Kuragina of the Soviet Union set a new world record of 4,856 points at Moscow on June 21. Her total bettered by 17 points the previous mark set by compatriot Nadyezhda Tkachenko in 1977.

Edwin Moses of the U.S.A. set a new world record in the 400 metres hurdles at Milan on July 4. By clocking 47.13 seconds, he broke his own mark of 47.45 seconds established in 1977.

BODYBUILDING

Asian Contest: Traq, with three gold and two silver medals, emerged champions in the 16th Asian Bodybuilding Contest which concluded at Jakarta on June 20. Malaysia (one gold, one silver and one bronze) and Indonesia (one bronze) finished second and third respectively. India ended up fifth without any medal.

CRICKET

West Indies-England Test: Rain foiled West Indies' victory bid in the second Test against England at Lord's (London) on June 24. The visitors had won the first Test at Nottingham on June 10.

SCORES:

England: 269 and 133 for two.

West Indies: 518.

Captains: Clive Lloyd (West Indies); Ian Botham (England).

Fastest Century of Season: Playing against Glamorgan at Swansea (Wales) on June 29, Viv Richards of the West Indies hammered the fastest century of the English cricket season. He completed his 100 in 66 minutes from 51 deliveries. His score included nine sixes and nine fours. The previous fastest century in 79 minutes had been recorded by Trevor Jesty of Hampshire in the County Championship earlier during the month of June.

HOCKEY

Murugappa Gold Cup: Central Reserve Police, Neemuch, carried away the glittering Murugappa Hockey Gold Cup when they defeated the holders, A.S.C., Jullundur, by a 4-1 aggregate in the double-leg final at Madras on June 28.

Kishan Lal Dead: Kishan Lal, who led India to victory in the 1948 London World Olympic Games, died at Madras on June 23 following a heart attack.

Born on February 2, 1917, he played for Central India Railway from 1942 to 1947 and Indian Railways from 1948 to 1957. He first represented the country in 1947 when he toured East Africa as a member of the Indian Hockey Federation team. He won another distinction when he was selected as coach of the 1960 Rome Olympics team.

He was India's fifth hockey captain to die. The others who had passed away were: Lal Shah Bokhari (1932—Los Angeles), Jaipal Singh (1928—Amsterdam), Digvijay Singh Babu (1952—Hel-

sinki) and Dhyan Chand (1936—Berlin).

SAILING

Heath's Success: Former British Prime Minister Edward Heath, sailing "Morning Cloud", gained his fourth victory in the Isle of Wight Gold Roman Cup race on June 22. He had won the gold cup with smaller yachts in 1971, 1972 and 1973.

TABLE TENNIS

Intab Cup Championships: True to expectations, Sudhoy Ghorpade, the holder, retained the boys' title in the Intab Cup Table Tennis Championships which concluded at New Delhi on June 28. He defeated his compatriot from Maharashtra Parthiv Vyas in the final by 22-20, 16-21, 21-19.

In an all-Maharashtra final, Niyoti Roy claimed the girls' title beating Falguni Zaveri, 21-14, 21-16.

TENNIS

Wimbledon Championships: Björn Borg, the incredible tennis machine from Sweden, set an all-time record when he won the Wimbledon Championships singles crown for the fifth time in succession at Wimbledon (London) on July 5. He was, however, fully extended by his three years younger American opponent, John McEnroe (21), before claiming the title by 1-6, 7-5, 6-3, 6-7, 8-6. Since the challenge round was abolished in 1922, only one player, Fred Parry, had won for three years in succession in 1934, '35 and '36. On June 8, the Swedish ace had claimed the French title for the record fifth time.

Evronee Goolagong Cawley staged a great come-back when she emerged winner of the women's singles. She had last

won the title in 1971. The fourth-seeded Australian defeated the third seed, Chris Evert-Lloyd of the U.S.A. in two straight sets, 6-1, 7-6. The loser, who had reached the final for the sixth time in eight years, had dethroned the defending champion, the U.S.-based Czech Martina Navratilova, in the penultimate round. Chris had won the title in 1974 and 1976 and this was her third successive defeat in the final.

Mrs Cawley became the first mother for 60 years to win the title. The Australians' feat in winning Wimbledon again after nine years' gap was almost unprecedented in the 103-year history of the championships. One other player did the same thing—'Big' Bill Tilden—who won the men's crown in 1921 and again in 1930.

Another remarkable feature was when Americans John and Tracy Austin became the first brother and sister pair to win the mixed doubles. The distinction of the first family combination to claim a title had gone in 1926 to husband and wife Leslie and Kitty Godfree.

RESULTS:

Men's singles: Bjorn Borg (Sweden) beat John McEnroe (USA), 1-6, 7-5, 6-3, 6-7 (16-18), 8-6.

Women's singles: Evonne Goolagong Cawley (Australia) beat Chris Evert-Lloyd (USA), 6-1, 7-6.

Men's doubles: Peter McNamara and Paul McNamee (Australia) beat Bob Lutz and Stan Smith (USA), 7-6, 6-3, 6-7, 6-4.

Women's doubles: Kathy Jordan and Anne Smith (USA) beat Roisie Casals and Wendy Turnbull (Australia), 4-6, 7-5, 6-1.

Boys' singles: T.X. Tulasne (France) beat H.D. Bentel (West Germany) 6-4, 3-6, 6-4.

WRESTLING

Mini and Junior National Championships: Haryana made a clean sweep of all three team titles—under-14, under-16 and under-18—in the fourth Mini and Junior National Wrestling Championships which concluded at Rohtak on June 22. Haryana's haul of medals in three sections included 18 gold, 8 silver and 5 bronze. Delhi got the second spot by claiming 12 gold, 10 silver and 4 bronze medals.

Mustering 63 points, Haryana retained the under-14 title. Delhi, with 60 points, were a close second and Chandigarh (22) finished third.

Haryana grapplers, with 54 points, walked away with the under-16 title. Delhi (47.5) and Punjab (34.5) got the second and third places respectively.

In the under-18 section, Haryana tallied 33 points to finish on top. Rajasthan (30) toppled champions Delhi (28) and got

the second and third places respectively.

INCOME-TAX CONCESSION FOR SPORTSMEN

F.M.'s Announcement: In his Budget speech on June 18, the Finance Minister, Mr R. Venkataraman, announced a special income tax concession for sportsmen. He proposed to allow a deduction equal to 25 per cent of the sportsmen's foreign earnings if these are brought to India in foreign exchange. This provision will apply from the current assessment year.

It was also proposed to allow a higher deduction in respect of savings made by sportsmen through the Life Insurance Corporation and provident funds. Sportsmen would thus be entitled to deduct contributions made to the Life Insurance Corporation and provident funds up to 40 per cent of their professional income and 30 per cent of the remaining income, subject to a maximum of Rs. 50,000.

OLYMPICS

Previous Games: Founded by Baron de Coubertin in 1896, the Modern Olympic Games have been held as follows:

No.	Year	Site	Nations Entered	Number of Competitors
I	1896	Athens (Greece)	19	484
II	1900	Paris (France)	16	1505
III	1904	St. Louis (USA)	17	1609
IV	1908	London (U.K.)	22	2666
V	1912	Stockholm (Sweden)	27	4742
VI	1916	Berlin (Germany)	Cancelled due to World War I	
VII	1920	Antwerp (Belgium)	26	2741
VIII	1924	Paris (France)	45	3385
IX	1928	Amsterdam (Holland)	46	3905
X	1932	Los Angeles (USA)	39	2403
XI	1936	Berlin (Germany)	51	4069
XII	1940	Tokyo (Japan)	Cancelled due to World War II	
XIII	1944	Not awarded	Cancelled due to World War II	
XIV	1948	London (U.K.)	59	6005
XV	1952	Helsinki (Finland)	69	5867
XVI	1956	Melbourne (Australia)	67	3539
XVII	1960	Rome (Italy)	85	5343
XVIII	1964	Tokyo (Japan)	94	5558
XIX	1968	Mexico (Mexico)	112	6096
XX	1972	Munich (Germany)	120	8982
XXI	1976	Montreal (Canada)	84	6934

Current General Knowledge

AWARDS

Lenin Prize: Le Duan, General Secretary of the Vietnamese Communist Party, has been awarded the international Lenin Prize "for strengthening peace".

Karlovy award for "Neem Annapurna": The Indian film "Neem Annapurna", directed by Buddhadev Dasgupta has won the Special Jury Award at the Karjovy Vary International Film Festival.

The other award in the same category went to a Tunisian film.

The Grand Prix was awarded to the GDR entry "The Fiancee".

The awards were determined by a distinguished international jury headed by Czechoslovakia's renowned Professor Brousil. Film director, Mrinal Sen of India was also a member of the jury.

The Indian delegation was led by Mr A.K. Dutt, Secretary in the Information and Broadcasting Ministry, and included Mr Krishna Rao, Deputy Director of Film Festivals, and Mr Buddhadev Dasgupta, director of the award-winning movie.

A number of other Indian personalities representing the Press and film market also participated in the festival.

Award for three Indian films: Three Indian films won awards at the 26th Asian Film Festival which ended at Denpasar (Bali) on July 3.

The three films were "Griha Pravesh" which picked up an award for its outstanding story, "Akramana" for its outstanding dialogue and "Aswathama" for its excellent theme.

The top awards of the festival went to Japan, Australia and Taiwan.

COMMITTEES

Key Lok Sabha committees yet to be set up: Even after six months of the constitution of the Lok Sabha, Parliament is without its three key committees: The Public Accounts Committee, the Estimates Committee and the Committee on Public Undertakings.

In the past, these committees, watchdogs of Parliament as they are, have been formed within a month or so after the Lok Sabha elections.

The Estimates Committee, confined to Lok Sabha members, selects subjects for in-depth study. The members of the other two committees are drawn from both Houses.

The Public Accounts Committee goes over the allocations made to various Ministries, while the Committee on Public Undertakings studies the working of public sector units.

DEFENCE

India to buy MIG-23s: India has initiated negotiations with the Soviet Union for the acquisition of MIG-23 aircraft as well as its manufacturing technology.

According to reliable sources, MIG-23 is being sought as a replacement for the obsolete HF-24 Marut and Hunter aircraft which constitute the tactical air support squadrons of the Indian Air Force (I.A.F.).

The first few MIG-23 squadrons will be formed by outright purchase and the later squadrons will be formed by the indigenously produced aircraft.

The swing-wing MIG-23 is available for various roles, but India is choosing the ground attack version called MIG-23-B for limited operation round the borders. The aircraft is also known as MIG-27.

Sources said that acquisition of MIG-23 technology would serve the country till the early 90's by when India's own tactical strike aircraft, built on the designs of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, is expected to be operative. A high-thrust gas turbine engine has already been developed by HAL in this regard.

Anti-tank weapon production: India has started indigenous production of the 84 mm Carl Gustaf anti-tank weapon under licence from Sweden.

According to reliable sources, a purchase-cum-production under licence agreement was finalised with Sweden about five years ago. After the purchase of some weapons, India

Awards
Committees
Defence
Persons
Places, Projects
Science, Space Research

started assembling it and now the production stage has been reached.

The Defence Ministry's report for 1979-80 mentions about it briefly saying only that the "production of this weapon is being established."

Carl Gustaf is a shoulder-fired weapon used by infantry for assaulting tanks at close range. But it is also capable of firing high explosive, smoke and flare ammunition.

The sources said that Sweden had also agreed to provide technology for the recently developed version called M-2 550, which can fire rocket-assisted anti-tank high explosive. The original version is called M-2.

The weapon can fire six rounds in a minute against tanks. The soldier firing it has a telescopic sight for accurate target acquisition.

The weapon is normally used by two persons, one for carrying and firing it and the other for carrying and loading the ammunition.

However, as the weapon is recoilless and light-weight, in case of need one person can effectively use it.

"Border Guard" Plan: The proposal of the Ministry of Defence to create a composite force called "Border Guard" under the unified command of the Chief of the Army Staff has caused concern among officers of the para-military and armed police organisations. These officers see no future in the new set-up.

Presently, the para-military and armed police organisations, the Border Security Force (BSF), the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), the Uttar Pradesh Special Police Force (UPSPF) and the Assam Rifles, are manning 15,000 km of the border and are under the control of the Home Minister.

The new proposal, which has been cleared at the highest level, envisages merger of the para-military forces into a group called "Border Guard". It will have four wings: (1) Pakistan (2) Western Tibet (3) Eastern Tibet and (4) Burma and Bangladesh. "Border Guard" will be officered by Army Officers on deputation while the rank and file will be from released and retired Army personnel. The proposal

is silent about the future of officers of the present para-military forces.

The rationale for the proposal is contained in an article by Lt-General M.S. Chibber, published in United Service Institution of India, in September, 1979. Lt-General Chibber argues: "Since short war in which the belligerents seek only limited gains is going to be the pattern of wars in the current international environment, the old concept of the police-oriented para-military forces for the borders no longer holds good. Consequently, the Army and the para-military forces have to function as a cohesive team, if they are to perform well. Our borders with Pakistan, China, Burma and Bangladesh are live borders which have to be guarded effectively and continuously. As such the para-military forces for such live borders have to be military-oriented."

PERSONS

Conan Doyle, Sir Arthur: creator of Sherlock Holmes, the world's most famous detective, was in the news when his 50th death anniversary was celebrated on July 7, and copyright of his works ceased under the British law.

Giri, V.V.: the former President of India, who died on June 24 at the age of 85, was a many splendoured personality, combining a freedom fighter, trade unionist, a Minister, a diplomat, a Governor, the Vice-President and the President in his chequered career, spanning over 65 years.

He had worked his way up to public eminence by his sincerity and dedication drawing inspiration from the fiery nationalism of Irish leader Eamon de Valera and the passive resistance of Mahatma Gandhi. Although he had occupied several coveted offices, trade unionism remained his first love until the last.

Samaranch, Juan Antonio: who has been elected President of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) for an eight-year term to succeed, Lord Killanin of Ireland, is a Spanish diplomat and industrialist. He is a former President of the Barcelona City Parliament and has been Spanish Ambassador in Moscow since 1977.

Sanjay Gandhi, M.P. and son of Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi, who died in a plane crash on June 23 in New Delhi, was a prominent figure in the Congress (I) youth wing. A few days before his death he was elected General Secretary of Congress (I).

Sayid Muhammad, Dr.: a lawyer by profession and politician by choice,

who has been named High Commissioner in London—nearly one year after the earlier incumbent, Mr N.G. Goray, left the post—is a variegated personality. He is a scholar in his native Malayalam and a parliamentarian of repute.

Now 57, Dr Muhammad plunged into the national struggle during the 1942 Quit India movement while still a student in Cochin. After a brief jail term he resumed his studies at Madurai, and later went to London University for his law degree and Ph.D. He also studied at the Inner Temple to qualify as a barrister.

Seretse Khama, Sir: President of Botswana, who died on July 13, at the age of 59, was Botswana's only leader since the country's independence from Britain in 1966.

His marriage to white English clerk Ruth Williams in 1948 caused an uproar throughout Africa. But as Lady Ruth she was later accepted politically in both Botswana and London.

Suzuki, Zenko: who has emerged as the new Prime Minister of Japan, was a supporter of the former Prime Minister, Mr Masayoshi Ohira, who died on June 12. Mr Suzuki was the unanimous choice of the factions of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party.

PLACES

Diego Garcia: It is a tiny island in the Indian Ocean under British occupation. It is about 27 sq. km. in size and lies at a distance of 1,600 km. south of the southern tip of India. It has become the most important American military base in the Indian Ocean.

It was recently in the news again when the Mauritius Prime Minister, Sir Seewoosagar Ramgoolam, asked for the return of Diego Garcia ceded to Britain 15 years ago at the time of his country's independence. Reports from Port Louis (capital of Mauritius) indicate that Sir Seewoosagar's action was prompted by the recent American military build-up at Diego Garcia although Mauritius has all these years reconciled itself to the leasing of the island by the U.K. to the U.S.A. for the establishment by the latter of military storage and staging facilities there.

Maxwell Montes: is the name given to the highest point found on Venus mapped by American space-craft Pioneer Venus-I. The mountain is higher than Everest. It is at right in the highest and most dramatic continent-sized highland region on Venus named Ishtar Terra. The smooth plateau has been named *Lakshmi Planum* and rises about 3

km above the planet surface. Maxwell Montes rises 8.2 km above the *Lakshmi Planum*.

"Purbasha" and "New More" islands: These are two recent land accretions in the Bay of Bengal named as such by Bangladesh over which Bangladesh has claimed sovereignty. Bangladesh has, at the same time, proposed a joint survey of the islands with India to settle the claims amicably.

PROJECTS

Kudremukh Iron-ore Project: The Iranian-aided Kudremukh project is expected to be commissioned in August.

The total cost of the project as sanctioned by the Government was Rs. 647.33 crore.

Namrup Fertilizer Complex: The new fertilizer complex at Namrup, in Assam's Dibrugarh district, work on which began in November last, will cost Rs. 168.43 crores and will go into commercial production in 42 months, according to a White Paper tabled in the Lok Sabha on July 8.

Namrup was chosen for locating the plant since two fertilizer plants are already located there and the site thus has the necessary infrastructural facilities, leading thereby to a saving of Rs. 12 crores in project cost as compared to a "grass-root location".

The plant will produce 600 tonnes of ammonia per day from natural gas and 1,000 tonnes of urea per day.

SCIENCE

New Theory on sun's life: The sun may have a longer life ahead of it—15 billion years instead of the eight billion now projected—according to a new theory presented by French and Swiss scientists.

The theory was developed by astronomers, Mr Avery Schatzman, a research director of France's National Centre for Scientific Research, and Mr Andre Maeder of the Geneva observatory. They say the sun may have an inner turbulence that would extend its life.

The sun is believed to shine by a series of reactions that amount to using hydrogen atoms to form helium. The helium is then fused to form lithium, beryllium and other higher elements.

In stars the size of the sun, most of the energy comes from the hydrogen-helium reaction. Current calculations predict the sun will burn up its hydrogen in seven billion to eight billion years, Mr Pecker said.

But in bigger stars, most of the energy comes from reactions involving the higher elements carbon, nitrogen and oxygen. These release more energy and hence deplete the nuclear fuel faster. Some big stars burn out in a few million years.

Mr Schatzman and Mr Maeder say: "Turbulent diffusion in the internal layers of the sun may bring in fresh hydrogen, which apparently will slow the burning and extend the sun's life."

Solar flare produces 100 m degree F: Instruments aboard an American satellite have recorded a massive 40-minute solar flare durst on the sun that may have generated temperatures of 100 million degrees Fahrenheit.

The US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), reported on June 19, the flare, which covered two billion square miles of the sun's surface, was measured on May 21 by six devices aboard the solar maximum mission spacecraft.

NASA said that for the first time, the satellite's telescopes focused on the hottest part of a giant flare and initial interpretations indicate that flare core temperatures can reach 100 million degrees, normal surface temperatures on the sun range between 8,000 and 10,000 degrees.

Scientists at NASA's space land, said electro-magnetic radiation generated by the May 21 flare created a geomagnetic storm that caused a half-hour loss of radio communications over a broad band of frequencies.

The scientists said study of the data may produce the most significant observations ever made of a solar flare

SPACE RESEARCH

Decade of Space Satellites: The eighties "will probably go down as one of the most significant decades of Indian efforts in space", according to the annual report of the Department of Space for 1979-80 released on July 8.

The basis of this confidence is the progress of the satellite programme and the partial success of the three-stage rocket SLV-3. The reason for the malfunctioning of the flight of SLV-3 launched last year has been detected and the second experimental flight is expected to overcome the problem.

The SLV-3 will have a payload capacity of putting a 40 kg. satellite into orbit. The Department of Space is also developing an augmented SLV-3 and also a four-stage launcher capable of putting 600 to 700 kg. of payload into orbit.

A number of satellites are scheduled to be launched during this decade though in many of them the launcher vehicle will be obtained from abroad. These include Rohini satellites, APPLE, SEO-II, INSAT-I, IRS, proto-INSAT and finally the completely indigenous INSAT type operational satellites.

The report claims that the satellites would open a new era in mass communication: remote sensing and meteorological observations which will contribute to many national efforts and promote all round socio-economic growth.

The Bhaskara satellite launched last year is now successfully completing all its mission goals. The TV camera on the satellite had failed to function earlier.

The Indian Space Research Organisation, which is in charge of the satellite programme, conducted a number of simulation exercises on the proto-type model of Bhaskara to find out why the camera had failed.

The fault was ultimately located in a high-voltage arcing in the converter of the TV camera. When that fault was corrected on May 16 this year, the camera began to function, giving extremely useful pictures of quality comparable to pictures from the meteorological satellites of the US.

The ISRO is expecting TV pictures of the whole sub-continent as the satellite's path drifts west-ward. Bhaskara is expected to work for a full 12 months more. Meanwhile, its microwave radio-metres have provided highly useful data in meteorological and certain ocean-related studies.

SLV-3: The second experimental launching of India's first Satellite Launch Vehicle, SLV-3, was successfully carried out from the Sriharikota launch complex of the Indian Space Research Organization on July 18.

India's first Satellite Launch Vehicle SLV-3 is a four-stage solid propellant rocket, 22.7 metres long with a take-off weight of 17 tonnes.

The 17-tonne launch vehicle fabricated at the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, Trivandrum, carried a 40 kg. Rohini satellite (R.S.-1) into a near-earth orbit.

The first experimental launch on SLV-3 took place on August 10 last year, but a malfunction in the reaction control system in the second stage caused it to deviate from course.

Corrective action has been taken to remove the fault in the vehicle for the second experimental launch.

INSAT-I: The first generation Indian National Satellite (INSAT-I) project is at an advanced stage of implementation.

The INSAT will be useful in the field of telecommunications, meteorological earth observation and the data relay, and direct TV broadcasting to augmented community receivers in rural areas as well as for radio and TV programme distribution.

The Department of Space is responsible for the operation of the space segment of the INSAT system.

Bhaskara-II: Bhaskara-II satellite for earth observation is expected to be launched in 1981. Bhaskara-II envisages the use of a refurbished proto-type of Bhaskara-I and will have a narrower spectral band width for its TV system. The sanctioned cost of the project is Rs. 1.40 crore with a foreign exchange component of Rs. 75 lakh.

The department noted that Bhaskara-I was functioning normally and one of its TV cameras was switched on in the middle of May. Since then the ground station had received some good TV picture over India.

Ariane: The Union Government has finalized plans for launching of the Ariane Passenger Payload Experiment by the Indian Space Research Organization.

Giving this information in the Rajya Sabha, Mrs Gandhi said this satellite would be launched from Kourou in French Guyana by the European Space Agency in November, 1980.

Progress-10 docks with Salyut 6: The Soviet robot cargo spaceship Progress-10 docked on July 1 with the Salyut 6 space station where two cosmonauts have been orbiting the earth for almost three months.

The cargo spacecraft delivered equipment, apparatus, materials for the crew's life support and for the conduct of scientific research and experiments, as well as fuel for the combined propulsion unit of the station. It also brought mail.

All systems were functioning normally it was reported.

Viking 1 to cease orbit this month: Four years after it began transmitting spectacular pictures and information about Mars, the Viking 1 spacecraft is running out of control gas and was to end its orbital mission in July.

Before the gas is exhausted, probably between July 16 and 30, controllers at the jet propulsion laboratory in Pasadena will command the craft's jets to fire to raise the high point of the craft's Martian orbit from about 54,716 to 56,003 km.

That will delay Viking 1's eventual drop to the Martian surface and will meet an international space treaty requirement intended to prevent contamination of Mars by an impacting satellite before 2019.

International Affairs (Contd. from page 16)

For every 100,000 population, offenders in various categories numbered 9,000. Their number in developing countries was lower—8,000.

An interesting phenomenon concerns women. While crimes against women have been rising, women offenders have been increasing at a 30 per cent faster rate than men. So far, however, male offenders number 10 times more than women. Unbalanced economic growth, family breakdown, gnawing unemployment and migration to cities are

among the reasons listed for rising crime. Assault is, by and large, an urban problem. The age group 15 to 24 is the most crime prone.

The UN crime survey takes note of new forms of criminality—illegal currency transactions, trans-national theft of motor vehicles besides smuggling, fraud and embezzlement.

The conference will discuss crime prevention strategies, abuse of power and the handling of juvenile offenders.

A Fresh Look at the Constitution (Contd. from page 18)

But the system of proportional representation, prevalent in France and some other European countries is quite complicated. It would take years to explain to the Indian masses what the List System is, what fractions of votes mean and how even small groups can be assur-

ed representation in the legislatures. Besides, this election system is likely to encourage more groupism and factionalism. Perhaps it would be best to stick to the existing system but eliminate the malpractices and assure fairer results in respect of the seats won.

Economic Scene (Contd. from page 22)

gap between the requirements and the availability is bridged (or narrowed down), the country will be faced with a very critical situation.

The way out is to give a boost to exports, attract more remittances, as far as possible, and save on imports without undermining development. Towards that end, the Bank suggests relaxation of the overriding emphasis on foodgrains. (Parenthetically, it may be added that Dr M.S. Swaminathan, as the deputy chairman, Planning Commission, advocated that India should build up what he

termed as 'grain power' since it has come to possess the needed potential for it through the new technology.

The Bank would also like unremitting efforts to continue family planning if the population growth is to be reduced to 1·6 per cent per annum in 1980s.

The inadequacy of the infrastructure and the shortages in basic inputs—power, transport and diesel—must be made good. Only then the shattered economy of the country can be rehabilitated to good health and the demand for aid lessened.

Personality Development (Contd. from page 28)

further support his self-image. In other words any one who is victim of self-consciousness can, if he tries hard along the lines suggested in this article, get rid

of this personality defect which is a stumbling block in his way to growth and self-actualization. To the foregoing recommendations we may add the

following:—

Try not to have a chip on your shoulder. Over sensitivity breeds self-consciousness. So try not to expect too much from yourself. Face up to the fact that every-body makes mistakes and that we all look silly on occasions. Try to develop a sense of humour and a sense of proportion about yourself so that you are genuinely amused by silly things you do and do not feel humiliated when some one happens to be rude.

Look outward, away from "I". By taking your "I" off yourself you can forget your shyness.

Try to imbibe smiling disposition. Cultivate a pleasant cheerful expression. Encourage other people that you are friendly and you encourage them to be friendly. "To win a friend, be one" is sound counsel.

One of the best way to overcome shyness and timidity is to develop an interest in helping people. To feel that one is needed and wanted fosters confidence in going out and meeting people and mixing with them.

Intelligence Test

(Contd. from page 30)

16. (c).
17. (a) Smell (b) Cube (c) Had written (d) Their
18. (b).
19. (c).
20. (e). (All the other words are anagrams of types of fuel. (a) COAL; (b) WOOD; (c) COKE; (d) OIL; (f) PEAT. The only anagram of (e) is OWL, which is not a fuel.)
21. 5. (All the other figures can be rotated into each other.)
22. E and E. (The word reads EVIDENCE in a clockwise direction.)

VOCABULARY

(Meaning of Selected Words used in this issue)

avarice: eager desire for wealth; covetousness.

bemoan: to lament; bewail; to pity; to grieve.

bemuse: to put in confusion; stupefy.

bloke: a man (slang); the commander.

blithe: cheerful; gay; sprightly.

brazen faced: one remarkable for effrontery.

brent: lofty; steep; smooth; unwrinkled.

calvary: the name of the place where Jesus was crucified; a representation of Christ's crucifixion, or a series of scenes connected with it.

cant: to speak whiningly; to use language whose meaning has evaporated from continued repetition; to use the language of thieves etc.; to take in an affectedly solemn or hypocritical way.

chicanery: trickery or artifice esp. in legal proceedings; quibbling.

decoy: to allure; to entrap; to lure into a trap.

decrepit: worn out by the infirmities of old age; in the last stage of decay.

deduce: to derive; to infer from what precedes or from premises.

deify: to exalt to the rank of a god; to worship as a deity.

delinquent: an offender; a person lacking in moral and social sense, without showing impairment of intellect.

disdain: to think unworthy; to scorn; a feeling of contempt,

generally tinged with superiority; haughtiness.

economy: the management of a household or of money matters; a frugal or judicious expenditure of money; thrift; saving.

eulogise: to praise highly.

euphoria: a feeling of well-being.

façade: the appearance presented to the world esp. if showy and with little behind it.

facile: affable; easily persuaded; yielding; mentally weak.

fad: an unimportant belief or practice intemperately urged.

felon: one guilty of felony; a wicked person.

fend: a war waged by private individuals, families, or clans against one another on their own account; a bloody strife; a persistent state of private enmity.

humbug: hollowness; an imposition under fair pretences.

impetuous: rushing on with impetus (impulse) or violence; vehement; acting with headlong energy.

insatiable: that cannot be satiated (gratified fully) or satisfied.

invective: to make an attack with words; to revile.

kow-tow: the more usual form of kotow—the Chinese ceremony of prostration; to abase oneself.

leash: a line for holding a hawk or hound; control by a leash etc.

lee: shelter; the sheltered side; the quarter towards which the wind blows.

megalomania: the delusion that one is great or powerful; a mania or passion for big things.

monolith: a pillar, or column, of a single stone *adj.* a monolithic.

monomania: madness confined to one subject; an unreasonable interest in any particular thing.

mundane: worldly; earthly; cosmic.

myth: a story with a veiled meaning.

obscurantism: opposition to inquiry or reform.

penury: want; great poverty.

pungent: stinging; prickling; acutely painful; penetrating.

protagonist: the chief actor, character, or combatant; (loosely) a champion, advocate.

rampant: rearing; standing in profile, on the left hind-leg; high-spirited; fierce; unrestrained; unchecked in growth or prevalence.

recrimination: act of accusing in return; counter-charge.

reprisal: seizure in relation; an act of retaliation; recapture; compensation.

sagacious: keen in perception or thought; discerning or judicious; wise.

scurry: to hurry briskly or flutteringly.

soporofic: inducing sleep; a sleep-bringing agent.

sycophancy: the behaviour of a common informer, a servile flatterer; mean tale-bearing obsequious flattery; servility.

Appointments Etc.

Appointed, Elected Etc.

Bhupinder Singh Sarao:

Chief Secretary to the Assam Government, appointed Chief Commissioner of the Union Territory of Chandigarh.

H.C. Sarin: Appointed Governor of Assam.

Dr Sayid Mohammed: Appointed India's new High Commissioner to U.K.

G.S. Dhillon: former Speaker of the Lok Sabha, appointed India's High Commissioner to Canada.

Juan Antonio Samaranch: of Spain, elected President of the International Olympic Committee (I.O.C.). He succeeds Lord Killanin of Ireland and is to serve for an eight-year term.

Karimou Mahamane: Appointed Ambassador of Niger to India.

J.R. Hiremath: Till recently India's Ambassador to Bhutan, appointed Additional Sec-

retary in the External Affairs Ministry.

Lt.-General A.M. Sethna: Appointed Vice-Chief of the Army Staff to fill the post which fell vacant because of the death of Lt.-General Jaswant Singh in March.

Vinay Kumar Verma: Ambassador of India to Ethiopia, appointed Ambassador of India to Hungary in succession to Mr Arun Kanti Das.

Zenko Suzuki: Appointed Prime Minister of Japan to succeed the late Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira.

Died

Sanjay Gandhi: M.P., son of Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi and leader of the youth wing of Congress (I).

V.V. Giri: former President of India.

Abdel Hamid Sharaf: Prime Minister of Jordan.

Seretse Khama: President of Botswana.

Nagar residence in south Madras.

26—Oil struck in the off-shore Krishna-Godavari basin. Gas struck off the Andamans.

JULY

7—India recognises the pro-Vietnam Government of Kampuchea and decides to "immediately establish diplomatic relations with the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea in Phnom Penh, headed by President Heng Samrin".

11—Ganga waters issue to figure in the summit talks to be held in New Delhi in September between the Bangladesh President, Mr Ziaur Rehman and India's Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi.

12—Five banned political parties of Pakistan vow to topple the Government of President Zia-ul-Haque.

13—Death of Sir Seretse Khama, President of Botswana.

14—AASU (All-Assam Students Union) resolves to continue stir.

16—Nation-wide Emergency clamped in Sri Lanka to meet the threat of a general strike by Opposition-led trade unions.

17—Ronald Reagan (69) unanimously voted the Republican Party's nominee for the next U.S. Presidential Election; George Bush chosen by him as his running mate as the Vice-Presidential candidate.

18—India successfully blasts off SLV-3 into space; Rohini satellite orbiting the earth.

E V E N T S

JUNE

19—The U.S. President Jimmy Carter signs an executive order approving pending shipments of enriched uranium for India's Tarapur Atomic Power Plant and transmits it to Congress which will have 60 days either to approve the order or strike it down. (It will need two-thirds majority to annul the President's order.)

21—China suggests solution of the border problem with

India on the basis of the present Line of Actual Control.

22—Partial pull-out by Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

23—Sanjay Gandhi, M.P., dies in an air crash in New Delhi.

—Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (L.D.P.) surges back into power increasing its parliamentary strength at the expense of centrist Opposition parties.

24—V.V. Giri, former President of India, dies at his T.

ANNUAL REVIEW

OF

ALL THAT'S IMPORTANT

National Affairs Round-up

Major Events (Mrs Gandhi's Year; Ferment in East India; Economic Front; Foreign Affairs) — Central Budget 1980-81 — Railway Budget — Big Deficit in Interim Budget — Birth of New Party — Jagjivan Ram's Switch-over — Corruption Among V.I.P.s — UNIDO Delhi Declaration — Report on Scheduled Castes — Indo-Nepal Accord — Police Commission Report — Recognition to P.L.O. — Memorable Win in January Poll — Congress (I) Triumph in States — 42nd Amendment held Illegal — Death Penalty to Continue — Land Ceiling Laws — Civil War in Tripura — Special Courts held Void.

MAJOR EVENTS

Judged from any angle, 1980 is Mrs Gandhi's year; instead of disappointment and disgust at the glaring frailties of second-rate and third-rate politicians, which were much in evidence during 1979 (Morarji Desai, Charan Singh, Raj Narain and others) there is renewed trust in Mrs Gandhi's leadership. Firm proof of this trust came early in January through her sweeping victory in the general election to the Lok Sabha where her party, the Congress (I), captured 351 seats straightaway, with more to follow when the process is completed, sweeping away in the process almost all other groups and parties, especially the Janata Party (now torn into many factions) which had ousted her from power in 1977. The wheel has turned full circle.

Mrs Gandhi has more than avenged her defeat. She is in the saddle again, and this time she is likely to stay in power much longer because the opposition parties are nowhere in the picture. The electorate has lost faith in non-Congress (I) par-

ties and may not like to experiment again with opposition governments which proved such a great disappointment and let down the masses so badly. The country now has one-party-dominated politics.

Mrs Gandhi's second victory came, as expected, in the well-timed elections to the nine State Assemblies which were held at the end of May. Once again, and at places even more convincingly, the Congress (I) emerged as the sole repository of power. In eight of these nine States the Congress (I) ousted the opposition parties and formed ministries. The two poll victories combined have established the fact that there is really no effective or workable alternative to Mrs Gandhi. The CP(M) has however consolidated its position in the eastern region.

There is, however, a notable difference between her general postures during the Emergency period and now. She is more sober, less boastful, more cautious and less arrogant, even though the citadels of the parties hostile to her have been

demolished and all the wavers, and many others are rapidly rallying to her side in the apparently justified belief that their future lies in remaining in the Congress (I). Perhaps she realises that she can claim the support only of a minority of the electorate—42·58% which enabled her to bag nearly 67% seats. The rest—about 57% of the voters are not with her. But elsewhere it is political wilderness and sulking in the tents. The complete overshadowing of Charan Singh, Morarji Desai and many others is a lesson not likely to be forgotten by politicians for many years to come.

Ferment in East India

Whatever the comfort she may draw from her electoral triumph, the fact cannot be denied that she has tough and seemingly intractable problems to tackle. The highly disturbed north-eastern region, Assam and Tripura in particular, pose challenges which she finds difficult to meet. Since the agitation over the issue of "foreigners" was started in Assam in November, 1979, several attempts have

been made, through negotiations and also through a show of force (posting of the army, arrests and curfew), but all these have proved futile; so determined are the people of Assam and so united in purpose that all categories of people, including Government servants, high and low, joined the agitators. This has indeed been a unique phenomenon; never has there been such unity, such doggedness and such consistency in conducting an agitation in any State in India.

Lately there has been a division in the ranks of the Assam agitators; the initial fervour seems to have faded, but the problem remains unresolved. According to some astute observers, Mrs Gandhi's future may hang on the Assam issue, especially because threats of secession from the Union are inherent in the agitation. The Tripura bloodshed (the tussle there was between the tribals and the non-tribals but this too had echoes of the "foreigners" issue) has been the worst in India's post-independence history.

Economic Front

On the economic front the performance has admittedly been abysmal and the immediate prospects are also described as grim. Now there is little talk of growth with social justice, nor of self-reliance which was once a cherished goal. A series of adverse factors have been at work, and perhaps the best the Government can do to check the stagnation in industry and in the general economy is to apply certain correctives. The 1980-81 Budget provided some incentives to uplift the economy and to dispel the gloom caused by the harsh, even vengeful taxation imposed by Mr Charan Singh. One of the major factors that has caused considerable dislocation is the sharp hike

of about 120 per cent in oil prices in a period of about 14 months. Higher petroleum and diesel prices have caused a chain reaction and pushed up the costs of all manufactured articles. There has also been a sharp deterioration in the trade balance; the increasing cost of imports and the unsatisfactory level of exports. The country's G.N.P. is down by about 2 per cent instead of increasing. The performance of the public sector continues to be disheartening on the whole, despite some bright patches.

Foreign Affairs

In the field of foreign policy there have been no marked successes nor any distinct setbacks. With Pakistan the relations continue to be much the same; there are occasional conciliatory talks and friendly visits without making any material difference, though happily there have been no strains and tensions in recent months. With Bangladesh also there have been several professions of friendship, though sharp differences have arisen over the sharing of Ganga waters which have jeopardised the future of the Farakka Agreement. With Nepal the relations are friendly, though dissatisfaction over the trade pacts remain. Nepal has lately been concerned more with its own internal politics—the referendum, the King's efforts to win over the goodwill of the people and taking heed of the signs of the times.

With China also there have been no tensions; on the other hand, the latest gesture in the third week of June, 1980, from Peking for talks on the basis of the actual line of control which does not suit India because acceptance of that stand would mean accepting for ever the seizure by the Chinese of thousands of square miles of Indian territory in 1962.

The Delhi-Kabul relations have been cordial, despite the dramatic changes in Afghanistan following the overthrow of some regimes and the occupation by the Russians. India's efforts to take the initiative for resolving the Afghanistan crisis did not succeed because there was no common basis for agreement. The U.S.A. rightly insisted on withdrawal of Soviet forces from Kabul prior to a settlement, while the Russians have been insisting on the fulfilment of prior conditions—a halt to all forms of outside interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs, hinting at Pakistan's continuing encouragement to the Afghan rebels with the unmistakable support of the Americans and the Chinese, obviously as a part of their political strategy designed to check the increasing Soviet influence in the Asian region.

Central Budget 1980-81

The Union Budget, presented on June 18, showed an imaginative approach and provided some relief to the over-taxed masses; there was relief for the common man in several taxes and duties. The harshness of the Charan Singh Budget was reversed and an attempt was made to check inflation.

The new budget marked a refreshing fiscal policy designed to revive the economy, encourage savings and production in both small and big sectors; relieve distress, especially among the poor and middle classes, by offering concessions in many areas the cumulative effect of which would be a halt to the soaring cost of living because of the somewhat lower prices of articles of common use, such as controlled cloth, hosiery, bicycles, toilet soaps, tooth-pastes, bulbs, life-saving drugs, sewing machines, etc. The wealth tax exemption has been

raised to Rs. 1.5 lakhs; this is far more realistic.

Among the major concessions and exemptions which would have a far-reaching impact are the withdrawal of wealth tax on farms (except on plantations)—obviously a sop to the big agriculturists, concessions to companies to encourage industry, the raising of the income-tax exemption limit from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 12,000 annually (incidentally, this gesture had been widely forecast on budget eve); the lowering of the maximum rate of personal taxation from 72 per cent to the pre-1977 level of 66 per cent; TV sets and radios will cost less because of duty concession or withdrawal of duty.

The total quantum of taxes (against Rs. 685 crores last year) will be Rs. 282 crores this year. The notable decrease in the quantum of deficit financing from about Rs. 2700 crores in 1979-80 to Rs. 1417 crores this time will also check the inflationary spiral.

To meet the mounting Government expenditure certain additional levies have been imposed, though the impact of the higher rates will be mostly on the relatively better-off classes. Higher charges for telephones, higher duty on cigarettes, costlier postal envelopes (they will now cost 35 p. instead of 30 p.), the still higher charges on parcels; the 7 per cent tax on interest earnings by the banks (yield Rs. 217 crores annually); and the increase in special excise duty on a wide range of goods, excluding petroleum and sugar (yield Rs. 198 crores); and the increase in the duty on excess air baggage. There will be a curb on lavish hotel expenditure (a new tax of 15% on costlier rooms). Defence gets Rs. 327 crores more.

Of every rupees collected, 17 paise will come from excise;

14 paise from customs; 7 paise will come from corporation tax, 2 p. from income tax and other taxes. The rest will come from miscellaneous resources. Outflow: 39 p. will be on plan implementation; 21 p. on other development expenditure; 17 p. on defence; the rest for miscellaneous expenditure.

The new budget figures are (in crores): Revenue receipts Rs. 12,356; Revenue disbursements Rs. 13,310; capital receipts Rs. 7,694; capital disbursements Rs. 8,157; total receipts: Rs. 20,050; Total disbursements Rs. 21,467; Overall deficit: Rs. 1417 crores.

Railway Budget

As a result of the railway budget presented on June 16, rail travel and rail freight will cost more. There will be a 20 per cent increase in passenger fares on first class, ACC and two-tier ACC sleepers, and 12.5 per cent increase for ACC chair cars and for all mail and express trains; 10 per cent fare increase for Class I passengers in ordinary trains; short distance travellers pay 5 per cent more fare, monthly and quarterly season tickets will cost 15 per cent more. There will be a surcharge on freight but essential commodities will be exempted from the higher charges.

Gross traffic receipts in 1980-81 are put at Rs. 2,749 crores; ordinary working expenses at Rs. 2,111 crores; Total working expenses at Rs. 2,348 crores; surplus Rs. 42.71 crores (after the fare-freight hike); operating ratio for 1980-81 is estimated at 87.8 per cent against 90.1 per cent in March, 1980, and 94.4 per cent in 1979-80.

The budgetary gap was Rs. 42.10 crores; the new rail levies (expected to net Rs. 204 crores) will convert it into a surplus of Rs. 42.71 crores. This, it is officially claimed, would help

put the nation's economy "back on the rails".

Big Deficit in Interim Budget

The interim Budget for 1980-81, presented on March 11, put the deficit at Rs. 1235 crores at the existing level of taxation and the overall deficit for 1979-80 at a phenomenal Rs. 2,700 crores, far exceeding the Rs. 1,382 crores provided for by Mr Charan Singh. The only non-controversial changes are in respect of income-tax, one of which extends the exemption to awards in aid of the poor and the ailing and thus ensures that Mother Teresa's Nobel Prize will not be taxed. The Government also exempted from payment of tax the income of all statutory bodies and associations that promote the interests of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes.

At current levels of taxation and slightly higher levels of marked borrowings (Rs. 2,500 crores as against Rs. 1,961 crores in 1979-80) and foreign aid (Rs. 1,196 crores as against Rs. 918 crores), the total receipts were put at Rs. 18,980 crores. Expenditure was estimated at Rs. 20,215 crores. The food subsidy remained at Rs. 600 crores, as did the subsidy on imported and indigenous fertilizers.

The Budget figures were: Revenue receipts: Rs. 12,128 crores and Disbursements Rs. 12,623 crores; Total receipts Rs. 19,980 crores; Expenditure Rs. 20,215 crores.

The Gross National Product (G.N.P.), 1979-80, would decline by 6%. Industrial production would be stagnant, if not marginally lower, than in the previous year. Prices had risen by 20% during the year. Mr Venkataraman blamed the previous governments for not increasing power production and making arrangements for inputs for agriculture.

Birth of New Party

The ill-fated Janata Party, formed with high hopes by the late Mr Jayaprakash Narayan and other leaders early in 1977, split on April 6 for a third time in three years. The split, brought about by the dual membership issue (involving the RSS membership) dashed all hopes of an orderly and viable party system with a credible opposition to the Congress (I).

Following the split, a new party, the Bharatiya Janata Party (B.J.P.), was born, headed by former External Affairs Minister, Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee. The party mainly consists of the former Jana Sangh members and some non-Jana Sangh leaders. It has accepted Mr Jayaprakash Narayan's philosophy of "total revolution" and has sought co-operation from all sections of the population.

According to Mr Vajpayee, the first task before the new party was to mobilise the people in order to meet the challenge of the "dynastic dictatorship" of Mrs Indira Gandhi and her son. He said the party would strive to ensure that the Congress (I) did not take advantage of the split in the Opposition vote. Efforts would be made to put up only one Opposition candidate in each constituency. The new party's policies would be rural-oriented. It would strive to fulfil the aspirations of Mr Jayaprakash Narayan and strengthen the forces of nationalism, democracy and socialism. The new party believed in the decentralisation of economic and political power as enunciated by Mahatma Gandhi. It would be non-communal and advocate principled politics. The flag of the new party will consist of green and saffron in verticle sections.

Jagjivan Ram's Switch-over

In a switch-over to yet another political party, Mr Jagjivan Ram on April 8 announced that he had joined the Congress (U) which is headed by Mr Devaraj Urs. Only a week earlier, on April 1, Mr Jagjivan Ram had formed the Janata (J) of which he was chosen President.

Mr Jagjivan Ram has ceased to count in India's political set-up and, despite his claim of massive support of the Scheduled Castes, he stands discredited and is generally regarded as a liability. His change of loyalties is symptomatic of the confusing state of political parties and the unprincipled actions of politicians.

Mr Jagjivan Ram's criticism of Mrs Gandhi and the R.S.S. has been described as significant since he had dissociated himself from the Janata Party over the dual membership issue.

Corruption Among V.I.P.s

Echoes of corruption, misuse of power and undue exercise of extra-Constitutional authority for achieving personal ends and self-aggrandisement were again heard in Parliament, and also in the entire country, when Mr Justice Vaidilingam's enquiry report was presented to the Rajya Sabha on February 5. The Commission had been appointed in 1979 to report whether there was a *prima facie* case in respect of the persistent allegations against members of the family of Mr Desai and Mr Charan Singh.

The Commission held that while 11 of the 15 charges brought against Mr Kanti Desai were baseless, in respect of four there was a case. These allegations needed to be enquired into. He advised similar probe in three of the many charges against Mrs Gayatri Devi (wife of Mr Charan Singh).

Mr Desai's family

In respect of the charges against Mr Kantilal M. Desai and/or Mrs Padma Desai, family members of the former Prime Minister (Mr Morarji Desai) the Judge said a formal inquiry under the Commission of Inquiry Act would be justified:—

(A) The circumstances relating to the suppression of Mr O.V. Kuruvilla, then member of the Central Board of Direct Taxes, and the appointment of Mr V.V. Badami as chairman of the Central Board of Taxes, in July, 1978, due to the exercise of vast extra-Constitutional powers and authority by Mr Kantilal Desai.

(B) Due to the exercise of extra-Constitutional authority Mr Kantilal Desai influenced the Government to relax its policy regarding the import of polyester filament yarn and helped the Kapadia group in obtaining a licence to import the commodity.

(C) Mrs Padma Desai, utilising her position as the daughter-in-law of the then Prime Minister, and assisted by the use of extra-Constitutional powers by her husband, Mr Kantilal Desai, over governmental machinery pressurised the Appellate Assistant Commissioner of Income-tax in October, 1977, to give a judgement in her favour in her income-tax appeal.

(D) Due to the exercise by Mr Kantilal Desai of extra-Constitutional powers and authority over the governmental machinery Dr Dharma Teja was issued a passport in 1977 which enabled the latter to leave the country when tax arrears to the extent of Rs. 6 crores were due from him.

Mrs Gayatri Devi

The Judge advised that a *prima facie* case in respect of the allegations referred to below is

established against Mrs Gayatri Devi so as to justify a formal inquiry.

(A) Interference by Mrs Gayatri Devi using her position and authority as the wife of the then Union Home Minister in the criminal proceedings relating to the Chaukra incident; (B) Interference by using her position in the administration of U.P. by delaying and obstructing the orders of transfer passed by the U.P. Government in the matter of Mr Surrendra Partap Singh Kotwal; and (C) Receipt of Mrs Gayatri Devi (and/or Mr Vikram Singh) on her behalf from educated young people of large amounts on the promise of providing them jobs.

U.N.I.D.O. Delhi Declaration

The three-week dialogue between the world's rich and poor nations, through the U.N. Industrial Development Conference (U.N.I.D.O.), which concluded in Delhi on February 9, proved virtually fruitless, with the prosperous group refusing to budge from their rigid stand not to share their riches and industrial technology with the rest of the world and not to make any substantial contribution for the latter's welfare. The conference adopted, by 83 votes to 22, a "Delhi Declaration and a Plan of Action", but it was in effect a meaningless gesture. The "Group of 77", representing 119 countries, forced a vote at the concluding plenary session on its original proposals, summarily rejected by advanced nations earlier, after conference President P.V. Narasimha Rao's mediatory efforts failed. The industrialised countries stubbornly refused to make any concessions.

China and the Socialist bloc countries voted with the developing countries. The effect of the vote is that the developing countries' proposals for a global

fund, an industrial financing agency and several others relating to technology transfer and systems of consultation, now form part of the Delhi Declaration and Plan of Action, in furtherance of the Lima target of securing a 25 per cent share for the developing countries, of the world's manufactures by the year 2000.

The vote marked a supremacy of numbers. The funds and technology which the developing countries have sought are supposed to come from the advanced countries but are unlikely to materialise.

The declaration urged that attention be paid to the increasingly widespread demand that a considerable part of the vast resources spent on armaments be devoted to development. The Declaration considers as timely the idea of setting up a global fund for the promotion of industrialisation in developing countries, as well as through borrowing from capital markets backed by international guarantees wherever necessary.

Report on Scheduled Castes

In its 25th report to the Central Government in February the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes called upon the Central and State Governments to take "special steps" to fulfil the aspirations of people of these communities to get adequate representation in posts and appointments as provided in the Constitution.

The Commissioner has pointed out that three decades had passed since the introduction of the principles of reservation of posts and appointments for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and yet the representation of these weaker sections even in Class III posts has been very inadequate, not to

speak of higher posts in Classes I and II.

The report stressed the "imperative" need for adequate training and facilities to candidates belonging to these communities so that the reserved vacancies in all-India and other Central Services were fully utilised. It has recommended that the Bureau of Public Enterprises should create an "effective cell" to deal with the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes employees.

The Commissioner has expressed the view that the reasoning and the objections of the Government in not accepting the principle of reservation in promotions within Class I on the basis of selection "seem to be unstable". It was strongly recommended that there should be reservations in promotional posts or appointments in Class I "not only under the Government of India but under the State governments and public undertakings also".

The Commissioner recommended that the carry-forward of unfilled reserved vacancies should not be limited to three recruitment years but the reservation should be carried forward until the vacancies are filled by the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes candidates.

Indo-Nepal Accord

King Birendra of Nepal visited Delhi for two days (March 7 and 8) and held talks with India's leaders on Indo-Nepal relations, especially in the context of the Afghanistan crisis and its repercussions on the sub-continent. The two countries reaffirmed their bilateral relations which, they noted, were characterised by mutual trust and confidence. King Birendra and Mrs Gandhi, in a joint statement, said that the two countries had decided to expand

their co-operation in mutually beneficial spheres.

They agreed that every effort should be made to increase contacts between India and Nepal at all levels to expand their co-operation. The two leaders urged the world community to take whatever steps are necessary to reduce the tension in the region. The reference obviously was to Afghanistan but the statement did not say so specifically. King Birendra and Mrs Gandhi agreed that all the countries of the region, as well as others, should help reduce the tension in the Asian region.

India and Nepal have also decided to demarcate their boundaries. Taken along with the new dimension added to bilateral ties, the royal visit proved timely and successful. The Foreign Minister noted in particular the support extended to Nepal's proposal for a zone of peace by Sri Lanka, Singapore, Burma and Bangladesh.

Police Commission Report

The Police Commission, headed by Mr Dharam Vira, in its report released on February 9, recommended that, to curb the widespread corruption among the custodians of the law, it is advisable to arrange summary punishment of delinquent police personnel without being influenced by political interference. The Commission is understood to be of the opinion that a lot depended upon senior police officers and politicians in arresting the menace of corruption.

The Commission feels that the role of the police force has remained unchanged since the British rule, during which it was used to project the interests of the Raj. The same things are continuing on a wider scale and in a worse manner.

The report observes that policemen are increasingly get-

ting corrupt because of political interference and influence. If they did a lot of unfair things to please their political bosses, why would they not do the same things themselves? Inculcation in policemen of a sense of duty, a value for virtues and dedication to the task assigned during their training would prove futile unless an atmosphere was created in which a corrupt person knew that he would be severely dealt with.

The Commission members feel that a corrupt policeman, in fact, progresses in the profession while an honest officer faces threat of harassment and transfer. Today's environment has got poisoned. The Commission was of the view that so long as political patronage of the policemen exists, it is extremely difficult to punish the guilty. It also feels that increase in the emoluments alone will not help check corruption in the force.

The Commission, in its earlier report, had said misuse of the police force could be checked by changing the conduct rules so as to stipulate that police personnel would insist on written orders from their superior officers.

Recognition to P.L.O.

India made a cordial gesture to the Palestine Liberation Organisation at the end of March by according full diplomatic status to its office in Delhi. Mr Yassar Arafat, the P.L.O. leader, who visited Delhi at the time, was treated as a Head of State. India was among the first countries outside the Arab world to recognise the P.L.O. and to permit it to establish its office in New Delhi in 1975.

India's External Affairs Minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, in a statement in Parliament stated that "over the years, not only by words, but also by deeds" the people of India have

demonstrated their sympathy, affection and brotherly feelings for the Palestinian people.

India continues to maintain that no comprehensive settlement of the West Asia problem is possible without involvement of the P.L.O. as an equal partner in the negotiations. That alone can bring about lasting peace. The inalienable rights of the Palestinians, including their right to a national State, must be fully restored.

Mr Arafat said full diplomatic recognition to the P.L.O. by India would help the Palestinian people strengthen their struggle for the establishment of an independent Palestinian State and homeland. Some European countries were showing better realisation and awareness of the demands of the Palestinian people, their rights and their struggle to achieve self-determination.

Memorable Win in January Poll

In the general election held early in January, 1980, the Congress (I) scored a great and memorable victory, getting 351 seats of the 525 for which contests were held, reducing all opposition groups to insignificance. The defeat of the Janata Party was most humiliating, but for its dismal fate it had to blame itself. The discord among its leaders and the total non-performance of the Government it formed disillusioned the masses who deservedly punished the once popular party.

The final party position in the Lok Sabha after the poll was:

Total Seats	542
Congress (I)	351
Lok Dal	41
Janata	31
Congress (U)	13
CPI	11
CPI(M)	35
National Conference (J&K)	

Muslim League	3
Akali Dal	1
DMK	16
A.I.A.D.M.K.	2
Others	12
Independents	6
	—
Seats declared	525

In June the Congress (I) also won the Mandi (H.P.) seat.

The election recorded a turnout of 55·50 per cent, which was higher than the percentages of poll in all but two of the previous elections. Giving the Congress (I) share as 42·58 per cent of the poll, the voters chose a Government on a minority vote, as in all the past six general elections.

An analysis of the votes indicates that the Congress (I) received 84 million of the total votes; 37 million votes went for the Janata and roughly half of that number for the Lok Dal—Janata (S). The Congress (U), with a little over 10 million votes, was way behind. This means that Mrs. Gandhi's Government is in effect a "minority" Government since it does not have the support of about 57 per cent of the voters (or most of them) who either voted for others or abstained.

The fact that as many as 150 million voters abstained out of a total electorate of 351 million and chose not to vote either way, shows that while 84 million voters favoured Congress (I) rule, many more (150 million plus the 65 million who back other parties—215 million in all)—did not support the Congress.

The number of abstainers was the highest in the January, 1980, election; in 1977 the corresponding number was 123 million; in 1971 it was 119 million and in 1967 it was 95 million.

The percentage of votes polled dropped from about 61 in 1977 to a little over 57 in 1980. This indicates that more

and more people are losing faith in the elections and politicians, getting disillusioned with the entire set-up and with men who become Ministers.

The unfair aspect of the poll result is also evident from the fact that while the Congress (I) with 84 million votes (43%) secured 351 seats, the Janata, the Lok Dal and Congress (U), together polling 65 million votes (about 34 per cent), got only 85 seats.

The Janata Party (including the C.F.D.) polled 45·06 per cent in 1977. The Congress Party, which had been in power since 1952, polled 45·0 per cent in 1952; 47·8 per cent in 1957; 44·7 per cent in 1962; 40·73 per cent in 1967, and 32·06 per cent in 1971.

The only two parties which have improved upon their 1977 performance are the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) and the CPI(M). This is evident from the higher poll percentage registered by them and reflected in the number of seats won.

Congress (I) Triumph in States

Mrs Gandhi's victory in the elections held to nine State Assemblies at the end of May, 1980, was no less impressive and conclusive than the Lok Sabha poll held early in January. The party swept away the Opposition almost completely in seven of the nine States—U.P., Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Bihar, Rajasthan, Gujarat—and scored a working majority in Punjab. The Opposition groups, torn by groupism, were nowhere in the picture. Mrs Gandhi thus emerged as a strong, all-powerful leader, even more powerful than before.

The only setback to the Congress (I) was in Tamil Nadu where the party's alliance with the D.M.K. under Mr Karunanidhi's leadership, failed to break the hold of the A.I.-

A.D.M.K., led by the film-star Chief Minister, Mr M.G. Ramachandran. The A.I.A.D.M.K. has staged a fine recovery after its defeat in the Lok Sabha poll early this year.

The turn-out of voters was impressive, especially in Tamil Nadu and Punjab. The discord among the Opposition parties and the consequent multiple divisions and the splitting of votes (caused also by the plethora of candidates) coupled with the Janata's ruined image, facilitated the Congress (I) victory.

Factors like the soaring prices, which the Opposition used as the main issue, failed to detract from the Congress (I) support in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Gujarat and also in Punjab, Orissa and Bihar.

In M.P. the Congress won 220 seats on a 48·18 per cent poll in 1972. The comparative figures now are 246 seats and 46·6 per cent votes. In the January Lok Sabha elections the party, however, polled more votes than any of its rivals in 248 Assembly segments.

42nd Amendment held Illegal

A Constitutional Bench of the Supreme Court on May 9 declared void and *ultra vires* two sections of the historic 42nd amendment to the Constitution which give primacy to the Directive Principles over Fundamental Rights and give absolute power to Parliament to amend the Constitution. The sections affected are 4 and 5 of the Constitution (42nd amendment) Act, 1976. These sections were held beyond the amending power of Parliament and hence void.

The amendment to Article 31-C of the Constitution, the court said, damaged the essential features of the Constitution and destroyed its basic structure

by total exclusion of any challenge to any law on the ground that it is inconsistent and takes away or abridges any of the rights conferred by Articles 14 and 19 of the Constitution if the law is for giving effect to the policy of the State towards securing all or any of the principles laid down in Part IV of the Constitution.

It was Mrs Gandhi's Government which had piloted this Amendment in 1976, seeking to expand the scope of Article 31-C and placing the Directive Principles of Policy on a higher pedestal than that of the Fundamental Rights.

By the court's order, not only has Parliament's power to enact laws for enforcing the Directive Principles (excluding Article 39-B and Article 39-C) been nullified but the inviolability of amendments to the Constitution has also been affected.

Death Penalty to Continue

The Supreme Court on May 9 gave an important verdict to the effect that the death penalty under Section 302 of the Indian Penal Code is Constitutionally valid and does not constitute an "unreasonable, cruel or unusual punishment".

This verdict set at rest, for the present, the heated controversy over the death sentence. The extreme punishment for murder has been abolished by some countries but retained by others. By a four to one majority verdict, the court also ruled that the death penalty for an offence of murder or the sentencing procedure under Section 354(3) of the Cr. P.C., 1973, also does not violate Articles 14, 19 and 21 or the basic structure of the Constitution.

The majority verdict held that the procedure contemplated by Article 21 for depriving a person of his life or personal

liberty is "just right and fair and not arbitrary, fanciful or oppressive". It also upheld the implications in Article 21 that the Founding Fathers of the Constitution recognised the right of the State to deprive a person of his life or personal liberty under the procedure.

The court held that Section 302 was not violative of Article 14 of the Constitution on the ground that it gave the Judges unqualified and uncontrolled discretion in the matter of awarding capital punishment or imprisonment for life.

Land Ceiling Laws

On May 9 the Supreme Court also upheld the Constitutional validity of the Land Ceiling Acts of five States enacted to implement land reforms. A Constitutional Bench of the Supreme Court, headed by the Chief Justice of India, held that all writ petitions and review petitions relating to the validity of the Agricultural Land Ceiling (lowering of the ceiling) Acts enacted by the States of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh and Haryana were dismissed with costs and any stay granted in any of these petitions was vacated.

Civil War in Tripura

Almost the entire north-eastern region of the country was seriously disturbed during the period 1979-80. The basic issue was of "foreigners" (as highlighted in the Assam agitation). While the Assam stir was generally non-violent, except in the later stages, there was much bloodshed in Tripura where serious disturbances amounting in effect to a civil war, and violence in some other parts of the country's north-eastern region, including Assam, occurred during June, 1980.

In Tripura the clashes, which caused a loss of over 400 lives, were basically communal in nature, with the tribals adopting aggressive postures against the non-tribals, the outsiders. The orgy of death and destruction was described as "unprecedented" since Partition. The mass killings, looting and arson took place even after the declaration of two-thirds of Tripura State as a "disturbed area" and the posting of armed forces and adoption of the other precautionary measures by Government, such as curfew. The worst period of the communal frenzy was between June 8 and 10 when the death toll was over 300, with scores of people receiving bullet injuries. The unofficial estimate of deaths was 500. Several villages were destroyed and thousands of people were rendered homeless. The administration virtually collapsed.

Special Courts held Void

The chequered history of the Special Courts set up by the Janata Government, after much delay and prevarication and with much fanfare, in order to expedite the trial of Mrs Gandhi and others for their Emergency excesses, had yet another dramatic turn on February 14 when Mr Justice M.S. Joshi, who was presiding over one of the Special Courts, ruled that the creation of these courts was illegal and void.

According to him, the Union Law Ministry had no authority to set up such courts. Since the order of allocation was issued by the President of India, in September, 1979, these orders could not have retrospective effect. It may be recalled that the Law Ministry constituted two Special Courts through a notification issued on May 30, 1979.

International Affairs Round-up

Four Major Events (The Iran Theatre; The Afghanistan Crisis; Indian Ocean Race; End of White Supremacy in Africa)—Russia Rejects Neutrality Plan—Iran's New President—Carter's New Doctrine—U.S. Snaps Ties with Iran—U.S. Withdraws Aid Offer to Pak—Russia Warns Pakistan—Russia-Afghan Treaty—Brands Commission Report—China Woos Dalai Lama—End of White Supremacy in Rhodesia—Martial Law in Pak—Pak Plan for Nuclear Capability—Nepal Ordinance on Rights.

MAJOR EVENTS

The past 12 months have had the usual fare of Big-Power tensions, rivalries, manoeuvres and counter-manoeuvres, notably in Central Asia and South-East Asia which continued to be arenas of turmoil, with occasional bloodshed, though this period has been generally free from full-scale war. Four events in the international theatre during 1979-80 stand out: the intensified crisis in Iran following the seizure (in November '79) and continued detention of about 50 American hostages in Iran and the futile efforts of President Carter to secure their release; secondly, the occupation of Afghanistan by the Soviet Union followed by persistent rebel activity backed by Pakistan, the U.S.A. and China; thirdly, the new and frantic arms race in the Indian Ocean; and, fourthly, the end of nine decades of White supremacy in Rhodesia after decades of domination over, and exploitation of, the Blacks in Africa.

The Iran Theatre

The crisis in Iran took a serious turn when Iranian students seized the U.S. Embassy in Teheran in November and held the Americans there as hostages demanding the return of the ill-fated Shah of Iran who was then undergoing medical treatment for cancer in the U.S.A. The U.S. Administration has tried all possible methods to resolve the crisis which became a matter of prestige for Presi-

dent Carter, including a desperate (and, by all accounts, an ill-advised and ill-planned) effort to rescue the hostages by a lightning helicopter raid. Iran-U.S. relations have been snapped; both countries have been in deep conflict since then, with economic exchanges at an end and seizure of each other's assets. The U.S. Government, in particular, has taken over huge Iranian assets in its territory; it has imposed sanctions but has not been actively backed by other Western countries in the attempted blockade. The stark reality is that no Western country wanted to risk losing the supply of Iranian oil by backing the U.S. sanctions move; so, while the tensions remain and the relations are sour, the sanctions against Iran have not had much effect. Mr Carter even proclaimed a "Carter Doctrine" to guard U.S. interests in the Persian Gulf.

In Iran itself Ayatollah Khomeini, the spiritual leader of the masses and once described as the "saviour of Iran" who managed to oust the Shah in February, 1979, has been losing influence and has been in the background partly because of failing health and also because after having fulfilled his mission to liberate his country from oppressive rule, he was incapable of holding Iran together and administering it firmly. The once-fabulously rich country has lately been in ruins, with uncertainty, disorder, falling oil revenues and a general sense of disillusionment among the people. The new political force,

Abolhassan Bani-Sadr, the President, started well and held the reins of administration effectively for some months, but he, too, according to the latest reports, has been losing ground and finds that the youth and the elders, especially the religious giants, are beyond his control.

The Afghanistan Crisis

The Russian occupation of Afghanistan late in December, 1979, has had greater international repercussions than any event in the international arena during the past year. A new alignment of forces and a new balance of power have been the immediate sequel of the Russian aggression. The U.S.A. has been vainly demanding withdrawal of Russian forces from Kabul, and it is backed by China (the Russian influence in the region is anathema to the Chinese, the giant ideological adversary), Pakistan which is supported actively by the U.S.A. and has been receiving large-scale arms and economic aid from that Western Power. The Russians themselves have been facing growing rebel activity with thousands of Afghans continuing their active hostility against the Russians. There has been considerable guerrilla activity which has cost the Russians rather heavily. But they have stuck on and have turned Kabul into a Communist camp, expanding their influence in Central Asia and, in fact, in the entire Asian region. The Russian occupation force is now estimated at about one lakh.

Following growing international pressure, and also in a bid to make a gesture, the Russians withdrew one division from Kabul, but it was just a token withdrawal and has not convinced the world of the Soviet Union's real intentions. In fact, the wide world is gradually getting reconciled to the Soviet domination of Afghanistan; it has become a part of recent history—a fact that cannot be reversed because no nation ever abandons its crucial gains obtained through a diplomatic and military coup, as in Kabul.

Indian Ocean Race

The Indian Ocean and Diego Garcia are in the news again because of the U.S. efforts to strengthen its bases as a counter to the growing Russian influence in the Asian region. Large-scale military equipment has been rushed to Diego Garcia which is being rapidly developed into one of the strongest American fortresses in the Ocean area. A Big-Power tussle is in progress again, the other factor that has fed the arms race being the developments in Iran. Each Power is anxious to safeguard its oil supply lines. All the talk of making the Indian Ocean a "zone of peace" has turned out to be vain and futile. The Big Powers will continue to do what suits their strategic policies and purposes; no one bothers about the wailings of the Third World, which is itself faction ridden anyway. The demand by Mauritius asking Britain to return the Diego Garcia island to it is no better than a cry in the wilderness. Massive amounts have been invested by the U.S.A. in building up the huge Diego Garcia base, and there is to be no going back.

End of White Supremacy in Africa

The end of White rule in Rhodesia-Zimbabwe in March,

1980, following a fair and free general election held under British (and in past international) supervision and the realisation by the power-obsessed Ian Smith group that the game was at last up, has been an event of the century. The Whites and their stooges who held the ministerial stage for about 10 months preceding the March poll failed to impress, and they suffered a humiliating electoral defeat. The emergence of the popular leader, Robert Mugabe, with a majority backing, and the reduction of the Whites' strength in the Rhodesian Parliament to 20 out of a total of 100 virtually clinched the issue. Rhodesia-Zimbabwe is now a free and independent country; the Whites are on the retreat, their era of economic exploitation may also soon come to an end, though they still control the vital mining interests and may not leave the country for quite some time yet.

The Middle East continues to be in a state of "no war-no peace", with Egypt and Israel settling certain problems by mutual talks under U.S. auspices, and the rest of the Arab world continuing their hostility towards President Sadat; in fact, following the shelter given by Sadat to the Shah of Iran (who has taken up permanent residence in Egypt as a guest of Sadat), calls went forth from Khomeini and others for killing Sadat. In effect, the American influence in the Middle East region has stabilised; it pulls all the strings, giving economic and military assistance to both Egypt and Israel and staging peace talks now and then, very much like a back-stage wire-puller and manipulator.

Russia Rejects Neutrality Plan

Russia rejected on March 6 the West's Plan to declare Afghanistan a neutral country in return for withdrawal of Soviet

troops, indicating that the proposal was not worthy of discussion. The weekly *New Times* said the plan merely distracts attention from the undeclared war which the "henchmen of imperialist circles are waging in Afghanistan".

The Article was the Kremlin's most authoritative reaction to the proposal put forward by Britain's Foreign Secretary, Lord Carrington, and later endorsed by other eight Common Market countries and the U.S.A.

Meanwhile, Pakistan has indicated its readiness to join efforts to guarantee, either on a bilateral or international basis, an independent, neutral and non-aligned Afghanistan to effect a Soviet troops pull-out from there, according to Radio Pakistan. The Foreign Affairs Adviser, Mr Agha Shahi, wanted that Afghanistan should first recognise the international border between the two countries. Also, conditions should be created to enable the Afghan refugees in Pakistan to return to their homes.

Soviet and Chinese commentators reacted coldly to the neutrality plan, but for different reasons. A senior Soviet commentator termed West European appeal for Afghan neutralisation together with the U.S. demand for a Soviet troops pull-out as a Western plot "against power and for a return to the cold war".

The Chinese commentary said: "No one is in a position to interfere with Afghan affairs which can be handled by the Afghan people alone." It also repeated Peking's demands that the Soviets withdraw their troops from the Central Asian nation, now estimated at 100,000 men. Pakistan, on its part, has said that any solution to the crisis in Afghanistan must include an Afghan recognition of

the Durand Line frontier between the two countries and a guarantee of non-interference in Pakistan affairs.

Iran's New President

While the deadlock over the hostages and other allied issues (including the demand for the extradition of the Shah) continues, a notable event in Iran was the emergence of a new leader, Abolhassan Bani-Sadr, who was elected President early in February and has been strengthening his position steadily. Ayatollah Khomeini, the religious leader, has been ill and considered too old and weak to lead Iran effectively.

President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr consolidated his power and intensified his crackdown on the young militants holding some 50 Americans as hostages in the U.S. Embassy.

Hopes increased for the early release of the hostages but the ruling Revolutionary Council said the crisis would be considered after an international panel was set up to probe its charges against the Shah. It did not say whether the captives would be freed at the time or after the investigations are over.

Carter's New Doctrine

Towards the close of January, President Carter announced a new doctrine, on the lines of the famous Monroe Doctrine ("hands off Latin America"), to protect American interests in the Persian Gulf region. It was a unilateral commitment and a warning to other powers against any move to gain control of the Gulf region. Any attempt by any outside force to gain control of the Persian Gulf region will be regarded as an assault on the vital interest of the United States of America and "it will be repelled by use of any means necessary, including military force."

Officials immediately amplified this to include not only political intimidation and external threat but also internal subversion.

President Carter continued: "We have increased and strengthened our naval presence in the Indian Ocean, and we are now making arrangements for key naval and air facilities to be used by our forces in the region of North-West Africa and the Persian Gulf."

The U.S.A. had reconfirmed its 1959 agreement to help Pakistan preserve its independence and integrity. The U.S.A. will take action, consistent with its own laws, to assist Pakistan in resisting any aggression. The U.S.A. will further strengthen political and military ties with the other nations in the region. The U.S.A. believes that there are no irreconcilable differences between the U.S.A. and any Islamic nation.

The U.S.A. is also prepared to work with other countries in the region to shape a cooperative security framework that respects differing values and political beliefs and yet enhances the independence, security and prosperity of all to assure the world that the U.S.A. meant business.

The Soviet news agency, Tass, described as "absurd", U.S. President Carter's claim in his statement that the Persian Gulf area is a sphere of vital interest to the United States. Mr Carter emphasised "the claims of the U.S. administration to the right to interfere in the internal affairs of other States which possess raw materials or lie on oil supply routes."

U.S. Snaps Ties with Iran

On April 7 President Carter announced that the U.S.A. had decided to break off all diplomatic ties with Iran, to recall

its diplomats from that country, and he asked all Iranian staff to leave the U.S.A. He also announced the U.S. Government's decision to impose economic sanctions against Iran as a reprisal for the continued detention of 50 American hostages. These hostages have been held in Teheran since November, 1979. He also announced official sanctions to forbid U.S. exports to Iran.

All outstanding visas issued to Iranian citizens would be cancelled and all exports to Iran would be prohibited with the exception of a small amount of food and medicines. Iranian assets frozen in the U.S.A. soon after the hostages were seized on November 4 would be examined with the aim possibly of eventually paying of claims of compensation to the hostages.

The United States Government has not ruled out any options, including the use of the military, for solving the Iranian crisis and has been counting on support from America's allies for the sanctions.

Hitting back, Iran announced that it would not supply oil to any country which joined the U.S.A. in imposing economic sanctions, the Oil Minister, Mr Ali Akbar Moinfar, announced.

Ayatollah Khomeini called on "noble Islamic nations" to kill President Sadat of Egypt and President Saddam Hussein of Iraq. Mr Sadat has given refuge to the deposed Shah of Iran while the Hussein Government is embroiled in new hostilities with the Ayatollah's regime.

President Bani-Sadr described the situation as "a war" and called upon his countrymen to remain prepared for all eventualities.

The Western allies of the U.S.A. have not backed President Carter's decision to impose sanctions against Iran.

U.S. Withdraws Aid Offer to Pak

The U.S. Administration decided early in April to withdraw its request to Congress for aid to Pakistan, effectively ending its aborted efforts to strengthen that country's defences. President Carter's administration quietly decided not to ask Congress for money for Pakistan in the revised 1981 budget.

In the original 1981 budget proposal, submitted in January, the administration had indicated that it would ask Congress for a supplementary appropriation of 400 million U.S. dollars in emergency economic and military aid to Pakistan over a two-year period. But things have changed since then. "It is not going forward", U.S. State Department officials said about the aid request. "The momentum is all in the other direction".

Earlier, on February 5, President Carter's Security Adviser, Mr Zbigniew Brezinski disclosed in Islamabad that the proposed 400 million U.S. economic and military aid to Pakistan was "only the beginning of the U.S. response to the threat posed by Soviet troops in Afghanistan." "The U.S.A. is committed to safeguarding Pakistan in terms of the 1959 (Mutual Security) Agreement against the Soviet danger from the north."

The two nations agreed that the Soviet armed intervention in Afghanistan is a flagrant violation of international covenants and a serious threat to the peace and security of Pakistan, the region and the world. There were reports, that President Haque was insisting on aid worth \$ 5,000 million to build up Pakistan's defences and bolster its economy.

Asked about India's fears about U.S. arms supply to Pakistan, Mr Agha Shahi terms these as "wholly baseless". The steps contemplated for the security of Pakistan were not direct-

ed against India. The U.S. aim is to enhance the security of both, largely because Afghanistan is no longer a buffer. "It has been transferred into an offensive wedge".

Russia Warns Pakistan

On February 2 the Soviet army newspaper, "Krasnaya Zvezda" (Red Star) warned Pakistan against the "unsavoury and risky role" being assigned to it by Washington, turning the country into a "springboard" for armed interference in the international affairs of Afghanistan. The newspaper said the facts indicated that playing with fire, enemies of Afghanistan are putting in jeopardy peace and security in the Middle East, South Asia and even outside the area.

Russia-Afghan Treaty

Afghanistan endorsed on April 4 a treaty on the "temporary stay of a limited contingent of Soviet Troops" on its territory. The terms and conditions of the treaty had been approved by the President of the Revolutionary Council at an earlier meeting. The terse announcement gave no details of the agreement.

Both Afghanistan and the Soviet Union maintained that the Soviet troops were in Afghanistan at the invitation of the Afghan Government. But there had been no public reference to a treaty.

Meanwhile, President Babrak Karmal told a news conference in Kabul that "limited contingents" of Soviet troops had come to Afghanistan at the request of the Afghan Government in accordance with the 1978 treaty of friendship, co-operation and good neighbourliness between the two countries.

Brandt Commission Report

A well-thought-out programme for world survival, equality and justice, and for ending global poverty, was presented by the Willy Brandt Commission on North-South relations. The Commission, which released its report on March 4, appealed to all nations, especially the industrialised countries of the West and the East, to join the re-shaping of global economic relations to guarantee a world of peace, equality and justice.

In an introduction to the report, Mr Brandt said that in the interest of global needs and universal efforts, there should be a greater involvement of the Soviet Union and China in creating a new type of relationship which could accommodate all nations.

Mr Brandt, the chief architect of Ostpolitik (detente in Europe) says that at the beginning of a new decade, only 20 years short of the millennium, we must try to lift ourselves above day-to-day quarrels to see the menacing long-term problems. We see a world in which poverty and hunger still prevail in many regions, in which resources are squandered without consideration of their renewal. Arms spending had approached \$ 450 billion which could be turned into productive expenditure on development. The Official Development Aid accounts for less than 5 per cent of the annual military bill.

The Commission's report outlines a programme for survival. It calls for an end to poverty and hunger before the end of the century, structural changes in the world economy with a fair balance and for mutual benefit, a new monetary order, and a massive transfer of resources, particularly to the "poverty belts" of Africa and Asia.

There was unanimous agreement among the members of the Commission—international statesmen and leaders from many spheres—on the priorities for bringing about a rational and equitable international economic order. This programme sets out the tasks for the 80s and 90s as well as an emergency programme for the first half of the 80s (1980-85). The commission called for a new monetary order with a stable exchange rate system.

China Woos Dalai Lama

Earnest efforts are now being made by China to persuade the Tibetan refugees who have settled in India under the leadership of their god-king, the Dalai Lama, to return to Tibet. A team of these Tibetans recently visited Tibet and reported their findings to the Dalai Lama at his headquarters at Dharamsala (Himachal Pradesh). Their verdict on whether Tibet was enjoying autonomy was far from conclusive. The Dalai Lama has not yet made up his mind whether he should go back to Tibet. He has decided that a second high-level Tibetan delegation will leave for Peking soon to work out the details for the possible return of the Dalai Lama to Tibet. The Dalai Lama's decision, according to these sources, follows Chinese assurances that they would welcome his return home where he would be allowed to enjoy limited power and authority.

The assurance was conveyed to a five-member delegation headed by the Dalai Lama's elder brother, Lobsang Samaden, which returned to India recently after a three-month fact-finding tour of Tibet.

Well-informed sources said that the Dalai Lama was favourably inclined to the Chinese offer.

End of White Rule in Rhodesia

Nine decades of white rule in Rhodesia ended in March when the blacks staged a decisive victory in Zimbabwe-Rhodesia's first free general election (held from March 1 to 3). Militant black leader Robert Mugabe won. The election brought 57 of the 80 seats reserved for blacks in the 100-member Zimbabwe Parliament to Mugabe's party. The remaining 20 seats are earmarked for the whites. But according to reports, many of the whites are planning an exodus from the colony where they feel they have no future.

Robert Mugabe is a radical left-wing guerrilla leader. The runner-up to Mr Mugabe's militant ZANU-PF (Zimbabwe Front) was the Patriotic Front Party (PF) of Mr Joshua Nkomo, Mr Mugabe's comrade in arms during the war, which won 20 seats. Mr Nkomo has joined hands with Mr Mugabe and become Home Minister in the new Government. Outgoing Premier Bishop Abel Muzorewa, who ruled for only six months and nine days, suffered a catastrophic setback, winning only three seats, 48 less than in the previous Parliament.

Mr Mugabe's victory was the more impressive because, unlike the indifferent turnout during last year's poll which installed Bishop Muzorewa in power, almost the entire electorate of three million Africans this time exercised its right.

With the new Parliament convened, Lord Soames, the Governor, formally handed over sovereign authority to usher Rhodesia into independence which the Africans have for over a decade fought bitterly to wrest from the small white minority. The whites, apart from still dominating the administration and the regular army, control 80 per cent of the land.

Martial Law in Pak

President Zia-ul-Haque, his Chief Martial Law Administrator, came out in his true colours during the past year. After announcing an indefinite postponement, verging on cancellation, of the November 17, 1979, elections and banning all political parties, he announced that martial law would henceforth be enforced in the country "as it should be enforced", that is, strictly and ruthlessly. All hopes of a democratic or civilian rule have consequently vanished.

Although President Zia seems well set in his position, discontent is mounting in Pakistan. The main political party, Pakistan People's Party (PPP), established by the late Mr Bhutto, is very powerful despite the legal ban imposed on it (as also on other political parties); in fact, Zia fears the growing power of the PPP.

President Zia later issued a new martial law order extending the scope and powers of the military courts set up in Pakistan under his total martial law plan. It empowers the military courts to try and punish any person found guilty of any crime under martial law. Gen Zia seems determined to eliminate what he called "the virus of politicization" from the bureaucracy and to free it of external loyalties. He charged officials with "sitting on the fence" and trying to stall progress of various measures which the Military Government had taken during the last two years.

Owing to the modifications in the rules, the President said in an announcement, it was not possible to stick to the poll schedule. The President also disclosed that he had conceded the demands of political leaders to relax the registration rules and to give more time to the parties to register themselves with the Government.

Only 14 of the 100 odd parties of that country had registered themselves when the deadline expired, automatically disqualifying the other parties from contesting the election. Among the notable parties which had refrained from registration were the P.P.P. and P.N.A., the country's two main groups. Both these groups had lodged a strong protest to the effect that the compulsory registration was unconstitutional.

Pak Plan for Nuclear Capability

Pakistan seems determined to enter the nuclear club by developing a full nuclear capability, regardless of the disapproval of the U.S.A., Britain and other Western countries. The U.S.A., on its part, has reportedly reconciled itself to Pakistan's nuclear plan. Pakistan's rejection of the American offer of \$ 400 million military and economic aid has heightened the concern in the West over the fact that Islamabad is determined to ensure that no constraints are placed in its plan to join the nuclear club.

Pakistan's Foreign Affairs Minister, Mr Agha Shahi, had indicated on March 6 that acceptance of the American package could affect the pursuit of Pakistan's nuclear research and development programme. Recent reports from Islamabad have suggested that Pakistan may be ready to explode a nuclear device some time later this year (1980).

In recent weeks, several M.P.s have been questioning the British Government over Pakistan's nuclear intentions and the clandestine manner in which Pakistan has been able to get nuclear technology.

The Prime Minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, has shared the concern over the security leak involving a Pakistani nuclear scientist, Dr Khan, in the joint British-Dutch West

German Centrifuge Project at Urenco, Almelo, in Holland, and assured him that efforts would be made to ensure that there was no repetition of that breach. But Mrs Thatcher has refused to link Britain's plans to sell arms to Pakistan with Islamabad's refusal to sign the nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty. In her view the sale of arms to Pakistan was a different matter as Pakistan "is right in the frontline now" in the wake of the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

The Washington Post on March 9 quoted official sources as saying that Saudi Arabia is negotiating with Pakistan to provide up to 750 million dollars to help in the military build-up of Pakistan. American officials note that even if Pakistan does not want American aid, there is no bar on American sales to Pakistan.

Nepal Ordinance on Rights

In another gesture to his people (the first being the broadcast in December last promising a democratic structure and basic rights) King Birendra of Nepal issued an ordinance on May 30, granting freedom of the press and speech, and freedom to assemble peacefully without arms. The ordinance followed a reported meeting of Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa with the King. On May 30, 1979, King Birendra had granted immunity to the people from the existing laws so that they could enjoy freedom of speech and publication. The new ordinance formalises that immunity, as questions were being raised regarding the freedoms which were specifically given in the context of the referendum.

The ordinance allows freedom of speech and publication and criticism within the bounds of decency. The need was felt of a convention under which

legitimate and correct criticism, as well as counter-criticism, could be made possible for "ensuring a healthy democratic practice so that all could enjoy the right and maintain law and order at the same time".

In his proclamation of May 14, soon after the results of the national referendum were announced, the young monarch had said that "dissent and diversities of opinion were accepted as hallmarks of democracy, and if the will of the majority is accepted as the ultimate decision to be carried out, the ideas of the minority are also treated with respect".

On June 1, 1980, the King reshuffled the one-year old Surya Bahadur Thapa ministry. Mr Thapa was retained as Premier and Mr K.B. Shahi as Foreign Minister.

The King indicated his determination to give post-referendum Nepal a better and more professional economic deal by including two well-known economists, Dr Yadav Prasad Pant and Dr Ram Prasad Rajbahak, in the Ministry and setting up a separate Ministry for Local Government. The new Ministry will presumably look after the proposed foreign aided integrated rural development projects involving substantial investments in a package deal for villages.

Current General Knowledge Round-up

Awards—Defence—Persons—Places—Projects—Satellites—Science—Space Research—
UNO—Miscellany.

AWARDS

Republic Day Awards, 1980

Bharat Ratna: Mother Teresa, Nobel Peace Prize winner (1979), widely acknowledged as a living saint.

Padma Vibhushan: Ustad Bismillah Khan, the eminent *shehnai* player, and Rai Krishnadasa, the eminent scholar and author.

Padma Bhushan: Sunil Gavaskar, former Indian cricket Captain.

Other National Awards

Jnanpith Award for 1979: Birendra Kumar Bhattacharya, noted Assamese poet and novelist, for his novel *Mritunjaya*.

The Rs. 1 lakh award has been sponsored by the Akhil Bharatiya Jnanpith set up to conduct researches so as to bring out the extinct and rare unpublished work of knowledge and to give impetus to the creation of original contemporary literature in various Indian languages.

Rashtra Bhushan Award, 1979: Lata Mangeshkar, the famous singer.

Mr Jayaprakash Narayan was the first recipient of the Rashtra Bhushan Award in 1977 and Mr Baba Amte, renowned anti-leprosy worker of Chandrapur (Maharashtra) the second in 1978.

International Awards

Nobel Prizes, 1979

Peace: Mother Teresa "for her work among the poor of India and in recognition of her work in bringing help to suffering humanity."

Literature: Odysseus Elytis, Greek poet, "for his poetry, which against a background of Greek tradition, depicts with sensuous strength and intellectual clear-sightedness modern man's struggle for freedom and creativity."

Physics: awarded jointly to Prof Sheldon L. Glashow and Prof Steven Weinberg (both of the U.S.A.) and Prof Abdus Salam of Pakistan "for electro-magnetic studies of elementary particles".

Prof Abdus Salam is the first Pakistani to win a Nobel Prize.

Chemistry: awarded jointly to Prof Herbert C. Brown of the U.S.A. and Prof Georg Wittig of West Germany "for their development of the

use of boron-and-phosphorus-containing compounds, respectively, into important reagents in organic synthesis."

Medicine: awarded jointly to Allan M. Cormack of the U.S.A. and Godfrey Newbold Hounsfield of the U.K. "for their contribution to the development of computer-assisted tomography—a new method for X-ray diagnosis, particularly in neuro (brain) surgery."

Economics: shared by Prof Theodore Schultz of the U.S.A. and Sir Arthur Lewis of West Indies "for the pioneering work in economic development research." They have been studying the increasingly desperate problems of the developing countries.

15th Nehru Award for "International Understanding" for 1979

Nelson R. Mandela, the South African freedom fighter "as a recognition of the relevance of the ideals of a free world order for which he has struggled."

The award, instituted in 1964 and administered by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, carries a cash prize of Rs. 1 lakh and a citation.

Magsaysay Awards, 1979

For "community leadership": Indian couple, Dr Rajanikant Arole and Dr Mrs Mabelle Arole for "bringing modern medicine to thousands of deprived villagers in west central India and spurring them economic progress."

For "international understanding": ASEAN (Association of South-East Asian Nations) for "supplanting national jealousies that led to confrontation and goodwill among the neighbouring peoples of South-East Asia."

ASEAN grouping Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and the Philippines was founded in Bangkok in 1967 as a cultural and economic alliance.

Pulitzer Prize, 1979

Fiction: John Cheever ("The Stories of John Cheever").

Drama: Sam Shepard ("Buried Child"—a play depicting the disintegration of a rural Illinois family).

Poetry: Robert Warren ("Now and Then: Poems 1976-78").

Film Awards

27th National Film Festival Awards for 1979

Best National Feature Film: *Shodh* (Hindi). (*Shodh*, produced by Mr Sitakant Misra, depicts the tale of a youth fighting against poverty, exploitation and superstition in an Orissa village.)

Best Feature film in Hindi: *Sparsh*.

Best Feature Film on National Integration: *22nd June 1897* (Marathi).

Best Children's Film: *Dangeyada Makkalu* (Kannada).

Best Actor: Naseeruddin Shah of *Sparsh* (Hindi).

Best Actress: Mrs Shoba of *Pasi* (Tamil).

Best Child Actor: Miss Geeta Khanna of *Aangan Ki Kali* (Hindi).

Best Direction: Mrinal Sen of *Ek Din Prati Din* (Bengali).

Best Music Direction: K.V. Mahadevan of *Shankarabharanam* (Telugu).

Best Male Playback Singer: S.P. Balasubrahmanyam of *Shankarabharanam* (Telugu).

Best Female Playback Singer: Vani Jayaram of *Shankarabharanam* (Telugu).

Dadasaheb Phalke Award

Sohrab Modi, veteran film-maker, for his "outstanding contribution to the cause of the Indian cinema."

7th International Film Festival held in New Delhi

(January 3-17, 1979)

Best Feature Film: "Hungarians". directed by Zoltan Fabri awarded *Golden Peacock*.

Best Short Films: shared by "An Encounter with Faces" (India) and "Olympic Games" (Poland). These short films were about children. Awarded *Golden Peacock*.

Best Actor: Shankar Nag in the Indian entry "Ondanodu Kaladalli" (Kannada) directed by Girish Karnad. Awarded *Silver Peacock*.

Best Actress: Savannah Smith for her role as a frightened hostage in the American film "Five Days from Home". Awarded *Silver Peacock*.

Best Director in the Feature Film Category: Billy Wilder, for his film

"Fedora" made in West Germany.

Jury's Special Prize for the most promising films: Muzaffar Ali's "Guman" (Hindi).

33rd Cannes Film Festival

Golden Palm Award: shared by "Kagemusha" (Shadow Warrior) by veteran Japanese director, Akira Kurosawa, and "All That Jazz" by American Bob Fosse.

Best Actor: Michel Piccoli of France.

Best Actress: Anouk Aimée of France.

DEFENCE

INS "Taragiri": is the fifth of the six Leander class frigates, and one of the finest, most modern and sophisticated frigates in the world. It was formally commissioned into the Indian Navy on May 17, 1980.

The nearly Rs. 40-crore frigate, built by the State-owned Mazagon Docks in Bombay, is a fully indigenous warship, capable of performing varied roles in combat against ships, aircraft and submarines.

The ship carries a wide variety of weapons to combat threats posed by enemy warships and aircraft and these include a number of radar sets. It is equipped with the most sophisticated communication equipments.

The four other Leander class frigates are: INS Nilgiri, INS Himgiri, INS Dunagiri, and INS Udaygiri.

The first Leander, Nilgiri, was commissioned in June 1972.

PERSONS

Abd-El Rahman Khane: He is executive director of UNIDO.

Abdus Salam, Prof: who shared the 1979 Nobel Prize in Physics with two Americans, is the first Pakistani to receive a Nobel Prize.

Bhattacharya, Birendra Kumar: He is a creative literary journalist and a noted Assamese poet. He was in the news having won the Jnanpitri Award for 1979 for his novel *Mritunjayu*.

Edison, Thomas Alva: The name of the world-famous scientist was in the news when his first invention of incandescent electric bulb completed 100 years on October 21, 1979. His invention heralded a new age for man and a century of scientific and technological progress.

Elytis, Odysseus: who has won the 1979 Nobel Prize in Literature, is 68-year-old Greek poet. He has written a folklore mythology called

"A Bible of the Greek people". Elytis is the pen name of Odysseus Aléphudhelis.

Fisher, Mrs Welthy: who turned 100 years old on September 18, 1979 is founder of Literacy House established by her in a village, a few km out of Lucknow. It is one of the best-equipped centres today for propagating literacy and adult education in India.

Hitchcock, Sir Alfred: noted film producer and author who died recently at the age of 80, was known as the master of suspense whose 60 films included such epics as *Psycho* and *Spellbound*.

Juliana, Queen: 71-year-old Queen Juliana of Netherlands, was in the news when she abdicated on April 30, 1980, her 71st birthday, stepping aside for her eldest daughter Crown Princess Beatrix (42).

Kato, Yasuo: of Japan was in the news having scaled Mount Everest alone via its most hazardous north-east ridge route to become the first non-Chinese to reach the top of the world's highest peak from the Tibetan side.

Laldenga: He is leader of the Mizo National Front. He was in the news when Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi ordered withdrawal of all criminal conspiracy cases pending against him in the Delhi courts, in an apparent move by the Government to find a permanent political solution to the 15-year-old Mizo rebellion.

Mandela, Nelson R.: is the 61-year-old South African freedom fighter who has been awarded the 15th Jawaharlal Nehru Award for 1979 for "international understanding". He is a prisoner of the South African racist regime for the past 16 years.

Mr Mandela has been the foremost South African leader in the struggle for abolition of apartheid and establishment of equality, freedom and independence in S. Africa.

McGrady, Lorraine Gaye: She is 20-year-old blue-eyed fashion model from Australia. She has been crowned as "Miss Asia 1980". Miss McGrady is a five-foot-six-inch stunner from Brisbane, who weighs 114 lb. distributed in her 34-24-34 figure.

Miller, Henry: who died on June 7, 1980 at the age of 88, was the controversial author whose early novels were barred from the U.S. for nearly 30 years. He is author of "Tropic of Cancer" and "Tropic of Capricorn".

Mother Teresa: Bharat Ratna (1980). Mother Teresa, born on August 27, 1910, is the Yugoslavia-born Roman Catholic nun who moved to Calcutta's slum "to serve God among the poorest of the poor". She had

been awarded the 1979 Nobel Peace Prize "in recognition of her work in bringing help to suffering humanity". She is the first citizen of India to win the Nobel Peace Prize.

Mugabe, Robert: He is the militant black leader of Zimbabwe (formerly Rhodesia) who won a landslide victory in the independence elections held in Feb.-March, 1980. He is the first Prime Minister of independent Zimbabwe.

Ohira, Masayoshi: Prime Minister of Japan who died on June 12 at the age of 70 was regarded as the architect of the normalisation of relations between Japan and China.

Prakash Padukone: National Badminton champion, was in the lime-light when he completed the grand slam upsetting the defending champion Liem Swie King of Indonesia on March 23, 1980 to win the men's singles title at the All-England Badminton Championship held at Wembley.

Sakharov, Andrei: He is the Soviet dissident leader. He along with his wife, Yelena Bonner, were exiled in Gorky on January 23, 1980.

Mr Sakharov is one of the Soviet Union's leading nuclear physicists.

Salamat Ali: He is a Pakistani journalist, correspondent of the Hong-Kong-based Far Eastern Economic Review, who was sentenced to one year's rigorous imprisonment last November by a military tribunal of Pakistan under the martial law. According to the court's findings, Mr Salamat Ali was found guilty on three counts under martial law: publication of literature promoting hatred between different groups, hatred or dis-affection towards martial law authorities, and inciting the public to seek dismemberment of the provinces of Pakistan.

He was released by the Martial Law authorities on March 29 on "compassionate grounds".

Sartre, Jean-Paul: who died recently at the age of 74, was a famous French philosopher. His philosophy of existentialism dominated Europe after World War II. Sartre's writings meant to help mankind shake off oppression and inequality. But his message was too intellectual to appeal to the masses he tried to help.

Shah of Iran: The ailing and homeless Shah of Iran was in the news when he arrived in Cairo on March 24, 1980 for stay in Egypt permanently.

Shoba: 21-year-old Shoba, the most exciting actress to appear on the southern screen in recent years and winner of the nation's best actress

award for her superb portrayal of a slum girl in Tamil Nadu film *Pasi* (Hunger), was in the news when she reportedly committed suicide on May 1, 1980 in her house in Madras.

Sohrab Modi: veteran film-maker who made "Pukar", almost four decades ago, now considered as a classic, was in the news having won the coveted Dadasahib Phalke Award for 1979 for his "outstanding contribution to the cause of Indian cinema."

Tito, Josip Broz. Popularly known as Marshal Tito, was President of Yugoslavia. He died on May 4 at the age of 87.

Marshal Tito was champion of the non-aligned movement and a Nehru laureate. He had received the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding personally in 1974.

PLACES

Diego Garcia: It is a small island some 27 sq. km. in size and 1,600 km south of India's southern tip. It has become the most important American military base in the Indian Ocean. The U.S.A. considers the use of this island, which is under British jurisdiction, as a full-time base in an area where events such as those in Iran and Afghanistan have led to an increased American military presence.

Durand Line: It is the frontier line between Pakistan and Afghanistan, named after a British diplomat who drew it in the last century. It runs across forbidding mountain tops, separating Pakistan's North-West Frontier Province from Afghanistan.

It is frequently crossed by Afghan insurgents with arms and ammunition to fight the Communist regime in Kabul and to return with intelligence on Soviet and Afghan army movements.

Kwangju: is the rebellious provincial city in South Korea where several hundred diehard insurgents continued their armed resistance amid growing chance of a major military assault on them at any moment in the last week of May, 1980. The South Korean forces, however, withdrew from Kwangju after crushing a major anti-government rebellion. A total of 133 persons were reported killed in rioting in the city.

Narengi: is a place about 15 km. away from Gauhati in Assam having oil installations. The area had been put under curfew after about 8,000 picketers, who had attempted to seal the route to Narengi oil-fields, were arrested. The agitators had been trying to block the Narengi pipeline in order to pressure the Central

Government for a decision on "foreign nationals" issue.

St Vincent and Grenadines: The island nation of St Vincent and Grenadines in the Caribbean is to become a new member of the United Nations. The Security Council at its meeting on February 5, 1980, approved its application for U.N. membership unanimously recommending the General Assembly to accord admission.

Tuvalu: is the tiny British South Pacific dependency which achieved independence on October 1, 1979. The 8,000 Polynesians of this chain of nine coral islands and scores of atolls totalling only 25 sq. km hope to boost their meagre incomes by leasing fishing rights to the U.S.A and other nations.

Zimbabwe: is the new name for Rhodesia, Britain's last African colony, which achieved independence on April 18, 1980. The new nation's name, Zimbabwe, stems from an ancient gold-rich African kingdom that flourished in the region a thousand years ago.

Rhodesia was named after Cecil John Rhodes, the British explorer-entrepreneur who annexed the land-locked territory for Queen Victoria.

Zimbabwe's flag represents five colours. The green of its flag represents the land, the yellow its mineral riches, the red the blood spilled in the war, the black its native people and the white its one-time colonists.

The three top Zimbabwean leaders are: Rev. Banana, President; Robert Mugabe, Prime Minister; and Joshua Nkomo, Home Minister.

PROJECTS

Chukha Power Project: It is Rs 143-crore India-assisted massive hydel project on the Wangchu river in Bhutan at an altitude of 7000 feet located in a gorge about 100 km from the Indo-Bhutan border town of Phuntoshing on the national highway to Thimpu.

Bhutan is poised to enter an era of prosperity by mid-80s when about 336 mw of power starts generating in the first stage.

The project envisages construction of 40-metre high gravity dam across the river at a gorge by diverting the waters into a head race tunnel.

Devighat Hydro-electric Project
India and Nepal will soon finalise an agreement for the execution of the Devighat Hydro-electric Project in Nepal. The project is a tailrace development of the existing Trishuli hydro-electric project constructed under the India-Aid Programme.

The Devighat project, which will be operated on a turnkey basis, will be fully financed by India through a Rs. 30 crore grant. The project will meet the power needs of the Kathmandu valley with an installed capacity in the ultimate stage of 10,400 k.w. generating 87 million units of power annually.

"Garland Canal" Plan: The plan initiated by Capt Dastur envisages a 1,500-mile long and 400-ft. wide canal girdling the southern slopes of the Himalayan region, and central and southern garland canals encircling peninsular India. The canals would be 11,000 km. long, and there would be 300 integrated lakes, all together proving a national water grid.

Kudremukh Iron Ore Project: The Rs. 650-crore Kudremukh project, described in the mining world as the greatest single experiment in enriching low grade ore through use of sophisticated technology, and supplying it in the form of concentrate of 66.5 per cent purity, is an engineering marvel built on top of 1800-metric high hills.

Nhava Sheva Port: Nhava Sheva has been finally identified as the "preferred site" for locating a major port on the West Coast of Bombay. The project is likely to cost Rs. 180 crore. When Nhava Sheva comes through, it will be the first major investment in years on port development on the West Coast.

Rajghat Dam: The Rs. 123-crore Rajghat Dam project is a joint venture by U.P. and Madhya Pradesh. The project is to utilise the waters of the Betwa and is being constructed across on the borders of Lalitpur (U.P.) and Guna (M.P.) districts, about 48 km upstream of Matatula.

Partial benefit from the project will start occurring in 1983; the entire project is likely to be completed by 1985.

Salal Project: The Salal hydro-electric project in Jammu and Kashmir, the largest hydel project under construction in the Central Sector, is now expected to be commissioned by 1985-86.

The Rs. 229.33-crore project over the Chenab river was earlier taken up for execution in the Central Sector in 1970 and was scheduled to be commissioned in 1976. But procedural problems delayed it and ultimately the Government decided to hand it over to NHPC (National Hydro-electric Power Corporation) for execution.

Silent Valley Project: This project was intended to produce 120 mw electricity and mitigate some areas at the cost of destroying the sub-conti-

nent's only patch of tropical rain forest in Kerala.

The Union Government has formally asked Kerala to abandon the controversial Silent Valley hydroelectric Project after a series of protests from environmentalists, scientists, international organisations and the Central Government's department of science and technology against the project's worthlessness, as it were to destroy vital forest areas.

Srisailam Multipurpose Project
It is a massive power project, 110 km away from Nagajunnsagar in the upper reaches of the Krishna. It is part of integration development of water resources in the State. The Krishna, flowing through a narrow and steep gorge, has provided an ideal site for the project.

SATELLITES

INSAT (Indian National Satellite):
It is a multipurpose satellite expected to be launched by India in early 1981. It will greatly enhance the meteorologist's capability to forecast floods and cyclones.

Besides getting cloud pictures every half an hour as against twice in 24 hours at present, the weatherman will also have at his disposal vital meteorological data from remote and unaccessible areas hitherto not covered by the observational network.

The meteorological payload of this multipurpose satellite comprises a high-resolution radiometer to transmit cloud pictures over one-third of the globe, every half an hour. It is also equipped with a special transponder for collecting information from unmanned data collection platforms to be installed in remote areas.

SCIENCE

gluon. An international team of physicists has found "strong" evidence of a new particle *gluon*. The new particle is not expected to have any immediate practical application, according to scientists, but its discovery represents a fundamental step forward in human understanding of nature.

The discovery of the *gluon* gives added support to the theory that protons, neutrons and other elementary particles of a class called *hadrons* are made up of even smaller bits of matter called *quarks*.

"neutrino", is a sub-atomic particle with a mass 13,000 times less than that of an electron which is shaking the fundamentals of particle physics and in the process, it is shattering the

concept of the universe, according to Prof David N. Schramm, a world famous astrophysicist from the University of Chicago.

The particle, called "neutrino", was hitherto thought to be weightless.

The neutrino mass may help resolve certain cosmological problems like the age of the universe, according to Prof Schramm. The physicists could not account for certain amount of mass in the cluster of galaxies and the neutrinos might explain the "missing mass".

Computer-assisted tomography: It is the technique which enables doctors to see inside the human body in three-dimensional detail without the help of a surgeon's knife. The most revolutionary results have come from peering inside the skull, where a scanner can show the subtle differences between brain diseases with similar symptoms, but which require different treatments.

It can also reveal tumours which previously could be found only by hazardous brain surgery. Pinpointing tumours to within a fraction of a millimetre, it allows doctors more accurately to aim their radiation treatment, sparing nearby tissues.

SPACE RESEARCH

Pioneer-XI flies past Saturn: The 260-kg. U.S. spacecraft Pioneer-XI successfully flew past the outer edge of the rings of Saturn on September 1, 1979, to give man the first close-up view of the giant planet. Scientists announced on September 6 the discovery of a sixth ring round the planet Saturn and tentatively identified a 12th moon before the space probe sailed into the reaches of deepest space.

Pioneer-XI was launched on April 6, 1973. It provided the first views of Jupiter's north pole area and passing Jupiter on December 3, 1974, at a distance of 27,000 miles and at a speed of 171,000 kilometres an hour, it raced towards Saturn after taking a "corkscrew orbit" around the giant planet (Jupiter).

Scientists say that if everything goes as planned, the mission will complete its six-year, two-billion-mile journey by surveying the planet, its rings and eight of its ten known moons.

Pioneer Venus-I: It is an American spacecraft circling Venus, stealing glances through misty veils, has seen most of the planet's face for the first time and has found some remarkable features

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration said on May 29 that Pioneer Venus-I has mapped more than 83 per cent of the planet's surface till then and was to cover 93 per cent by the June-end.

The unmanned spacecraft has mapped huge continent-sized uplifts, deep rift valleys, mountains as high as Everest and giant shallow craters.

For a planet once thought to be drab and featureless beneath its thick layer of clouds, scientists say Venus has turned out to be stunning.

Voyager-I and -II, are the two unmanned space ships which were launched in August September, 1977 on a journey to explore the far reaches of the solar system and to carry messages to any other forms of life that may exist in space.

While Voyager-I is to fly to Jupiter and Saturn before it gets lost among the stars, Voyager-II will not only fly by Jupiter and Saturn, but also Uranus and Neptune. It will cover 4.5 billion kilometres, about 30 times the distance of earth from the sun, within the next 13 years—to become the longest space voyager launched to date.

Voyager-II passed over the planet Jupiter on July 8, 1979, thus completing the work of its sister craft, Voyager-I.

U.N.O.

New U.N. Member

Dominica, the newly independent Caribbean island country was admitted as the 151st member of the U.N.O. in September 1979.

MISCELLANY

Comet Bradfield: A comet known as Comet Bradfield, named after its discoverer, an Australian amateur astronomer, is approaching the earth at a distance of only 40 million km as has been observed by a space telescope according to the European Space Agency. The comet has an estimated orbital period of 350 years.

The space telescope which is tracking it is the International Ultraviolet Explorer (IUE), which has just completed two years in orbit.

The comet has been spotted in ultraviolet spectra which cannot be studied from a ground observatory, as the earth's atmosphere absorbs the ultraviolet rays.

Astronomers are now determining the composition of the comet.

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THE COMPETITION MASTER

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IIITF '79: the abbreviation stands for India International Trade Fair 1979 which was opened in New Delhi on November 10, 1979.

The month-long fair, being organised by the Trade Fair Authority, gave a panoramic view of the emerging industrial capabilities of India and her partners in trade and economic collaboration. The basic objective of IIITF '79 was to project a telescopic view of the expanding trade relations of India with countries of the world and educate the visitors about India's progress in production and technology.

As many as 21 countries participated in the fair. Apart from this, 17 foreign business and industrial enterprises also took part in it. In the national sector, 21 states and Union Territories put up pavillions.

Intelpost (Satellite mail in the offing): The United States and British mail agencies have been testing an international electronic message system that uses a satellite to get messages across the ocean.

Under the proposed service original documents will be converted into electronic signals that can be bounced off the satellite to an earth station overseas and then restored to duplicates of the original letters. The letters can then be delivered with the regular mail.

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Amrit Kumar (hockey)	547
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Letter from the Editor

Towards New Horizons

Dear Readers,

As in the past, this year too our Annual Number was sold out almost immediately it had been published, and we have not been able to comply with repeat orders.

Your enthusiastic acknowledgement every time of our efforts to present to you something useful leaves us with feelings of gratefulness.

Life is sustained as long as it goes on renewing itself. Having undertaken to serve the up-and-coming youth of India, we realise only too well that we cannot afford to sit with furl'd wings.

Let us, therefore, join hands and march towards new horizons together.

Yours sincerely,

Editor

The Competition Master
126, Industrial Area,
CHANDIGARH—160002

The Growing Scare of the Bomb

NEWSPAPER reports about the ever-expanding number of countries which can manufacture, or have already manufactured, nuclear bombs have now become so frequent that the common man has begun to entertain fears of a nuclear war within the next few years. The requisite technology has been developed by several countries of the Third World, not to speak of the advanced West, largely through sales and purchases, openly by France (which, like China, has not signed the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty and has made a profitable business out of nuclear know-how), and secretly by some of the other Powers. The very thought that by the end of the 1980s about 30 countries will possess the technology to manufacture the dreaded bomb is soul-chilling. At this rate the nuclear bomb may become almost as common as the Jets and the Jumboos.

From India's standpoint, it is Pakistan's frantic bid to acquire the nuclear capability and the feverish acquisition by that country of sophisticated armaments that poses an immediate threat. The latest reports show that Pakistan has been stockpiling strategic material for nuclear weapons and a second plant for the relevant technology is being built near Rawalpindi. International experts have also stated that within three or four years at the latest, Pakistan will have enough enriched uranium for making five to seven nuclear bombs every year. Of course President Zia-ul-Haque has denied any intention to manufacture a bomb and make Pakistan a nuclear Power, but at the same time Islamabad spokesmen retain the options and allege that India is already in a position to make the bomb and is about to do so, and hence Pakistan would have to equip itself suitably as a counter-measure.

China's active but undisclosed assistance has always been at Pakistan's disposal. The Communist giant of the East has its own strategic reasons to arm Pakistan, the principal determinant of Peking's policy being the urgency of offsetting the Soviet Union's growing hegemony in the region. But the recent and highly dangerous development in the nuclear field has been the subtle move of the Arab nations, notably Libya and Saudi Arabia, to extend liberal financial and other assistance to Pakistan to

enable it to manufacture nuclear bombs which the Arabs would use to attack Israel. It is widely believed that Israel has already produced and stockpiled nuclear weapons, mostly through the talent of its own scientists and partly through unpublicised U.S. technological aid. It is believed that Israel is adding nuclear teeth to its growing threats to the Arab world. It is further learnt that Iraq is also constructing an atomic energy plant with the assistance of France and Italy. Israel, on its part, will not hesitate to use its stockpiled bombs whenever it feels that the Arabs are posing a threat to its security. Such dangerous situations may arise in the near future considering the mounting tensions between the Arabs and the Israelis.

Thus the danger of a nuclear conflict is growing on both sides of our own country: Pakistan itself is about to cross the threshold, and on the other side, in West Asia, preparations are rapidly being made to manufacture what is being called an "Islamic Bomb" to fight the common enemy—Israel. Such rumours of an "Islamic Bomb" cannot be brushed aside as wishful thinking on the part of the Arabs and Pakistanis; the former are flushed with oil funds, and the latter have acquired the requisite nuclear technology. Consequently, both the motivation, the money and the men are there, well set for the leap, and even one bomb explosion in the West Asian region by any party would start a chain reaction which would have disastrous consequences for the Indian sub-continent also.

The cult of the bomb is obviously spreading much too fast, and it is some consolation that New Delhi is determined not to be caught napping while the menace mounts. It knows that the Arabs in West Asia are still far behind in developing nuclear know-how even for peaceful purposes, but Pakistan is ahead of them, and it is there that the biggest source of danger lies.

The time is long past when we could rest content with the Pokharan blast and our recent scientific achievements in space; by acquiring the new centrifuge technique Pakistan has mastered knowledge in a couple of years which it took India over a decade to develop through its devoted team of nuclear scientists.

Current National Affairs

Judgement on 42nd Amendment

The amendments made in the Constitution by the 42nd amendment have been unanimously held invalid and struck down by a five-member Bench of the Supreme Court. The amendment had declared that there was no restriction or limitation on the powers of Parliament to change the provisions of the Constitution under Article 368 and that the amendments thus made are beyond review by the judiciary. The bare judgement was announced on May 9, but the reasons for striking down the 42nd amendment were given on August 1.

The Court has held that Article 368(4) and (5) introduced in the Constitution by clause 55 of the 42nd Constitutional amendment, 1976, converts a controlled Constitution into an uncontrolled one, a limited amending power into an absolute power and robs the courts of the power of judicial review, thereby rendering Fundamental Rights into a "writ in water". The decision in the Kesavananda Bharati case does not permit Parliament to confer on itself a vast and undefined power to amend the Constitution so as to distort it out of recognition, Chief Justice Y.V. ChandraChud, Justices A.C. Gupta, N.L. Untwalia and P.S. Kailasam declared while giving reasons for holding Article 368(4) and (5) as well as Art. 31 (C) as amended by the 42nd Amendment Act as unconstitutional.

Coming to Art. 31 (C), the Judges held that the heart of the

matter was "whether the Directive Principles of State Policy contained in Part IV of the Constitution can have primacy over the Fundamental Rights conferred by Part III."

The Judges held that just as the fundamental rights would be without a radar and a compass if they were not geared to an ideal, in the same manner the attainment of the ideals set out in the Directive Principles would become a pretence for tyranny if the price to be paid for achieving that ideal is human freedom.

This harmony and balance between Directive Principles and fundamental rights formed an essential feature of the Constitution and to give primacy to one over the other would be to disturb the harmony. Art. 31 (C) abrogated the fundamental rights to equality and the seven freedoms for citizens mentioned in Art. 19. In terms of Kesavananda Bharati case this was not permissible as Fundamental Rights had been called therein "the arch of the Constitution". Without Articles 14 and 19 free democracy is impossible, and these must, therefore, be preserved at all costs.

The doctrine of reading down could not be applied to save Article 31 (C) as, in the history of constitutional law, no constitutional amendment had ever been read down to mean the exact opposite of what it says and intends. In his speech on Art. 31 (C) in Parliament, the Law Minister had clearly stated that the Government did not want "the let and

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hindrance" of fundamental rights.

Article 31 (C) could not be saved on the same grounds as Art. 38 for, unlike the latter, it did not deal with specific subjects. All the Directive Principles were not enshrined in Art. 38, and Art. 31 (C) was an invitation (in terms of the argument of the Attorney-General) to sit in judgement over the policy of the State. This the courts may not do, for it would be sheer adventurism under Art. 31 (C).

Dissenting Verdict: However, Mr Justice Bhagwati, dissenting with the opinion of the other four Judges, stated that Parliament can write into the Constitution that a law made for securing "all or any of the Directive Principles" shall not be called into question on the ground of violating the Fundamental Rights to equality and the seven freedoms guaranteed to citizens by Article 19. Accordingly, Mr Justice Bhagwati, unlike his four brother Judges, upheld the constitutional validity of Article 31 (C) introduced by Clause 4 of the 42nd Amendment. Striking down Article 368 (4) and (5), Mr Justice Bhagwati declared that this violated two essential features of the basic structure of the Constitution: first, that Parliament, as a creature of the Constitution, has no inherent power to amend this supreme law of the land and can only have a limited power; second, the power of judicial review more than any other is basic and fundamental to the maintenance of democracy and the rule of law. Article 368 prohibiting the challenging of a Constitutional amendment on any ground could be termed nothing short of subversion of the Constitution.

Upholding the constitutionality of Article 31 (C), the Judge declared that it was wholly unnecessary for the court to have gone into the question. The

Judge declared that Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles formed a single unit in the spectrum of human rights instead of two separate compartments in which the one would have primacy over the other. The fact that Directive Principles were not enforceable did not mean that they were subservient to Fundamental Rights. The fulfilment of Directive Principles was essential to make the Fundamental Rights available to millions of the poor and hungry in this country and judicial tests could be laid down for testing a law under this article.

Exposition of Foreign Policy

India's stand on several foreign policy matters was clarified in Parliament on August 7 and 8 by the External Affairs Minister, Mr P.V. Narasimha Rao. These issues included the recent recognition of Kampuchea (former Cambodia), which he strongly defended, the latest turn in the relations with China and the militarisation of the Indian Ocean, especially by the U.S.A. to strengthen its strategic position.

Recognition of Kampuchea: Mr Rao stoutly upheld India's decision to recognise Kampuchea. Some countries had pleaded with India to defer its decision, while some others had suggested that recognition should be accorded "instantly". Without allowing itself to be influenced by any of these moves, "India chose its own timings." There was no question of its being pressurised by any country.

Replying to the question if India had made any serious efforts to ensure that the foreign troops were withdrawn from Kampuchea, Mr Rao explained: "We are against the presence of foreign troops in any country. Our principled stand on this

subject is well known." Kampuchea needs all possible assistance from the international community if it is to develop its economy, restore its infrastructure and re-establish its status as a sovereign, independent and non-aligned nation. This would also facilitate the eventual withdrawal of foreign troops from Kampuchea.

According to Mr Rao, it was absolutely impossible to use recognition as a lever for getting foreign troops withdrawn. He maintained that it was necessary to put back Kampuchea on its feet. He hoped that the time would come when Kampuchea would reassert itself as an independent and non-aligned country with the foreign presence vacated.

India could now become a "window" of Kampuchea. Mr Rao felt that India's move would have a chain reaction. Recognition of a country's Government was not conditional on the presence or otherwise of foreign troops. It had not been the sole consideration. Many countries with foreign troops had been recognised, but other factors had been more important.

China Trends: The Government of India saw nothing abnormal in the postponement of the visit of Mr Huang Hua to India and said that China would be suggesting suitable dates for it later on. "We do not have to make a song and dance about it." India would like normalisation of relations with China and would have to be content with the intimation that Mr Huang Hua had found it difficult to come later this year for internal and external reasons. India would rather leave the pace of normalisation to the Chinese and then respond. The content of the normalisation had not been spelt out. This will have to be done.

Indo-Pak Relations: Talking of the relations with Pakistan, the Simla spirit must prevail. India should continue to improve and normalise her relations with Pakistan. Some headway had been made in this direction during Mr Agha Shahi's recent visit. Pakistan had no political inhibitions for establishing trade with India. This was a dialogue that would have to be started and continued till results come forth. Efforts would be made to facilitate tourist traffic between the two countries. Steps would be taken to improve travel facilities and opening of more border crossing points. There were positive indications that exchanges of Indian and Pakistani prisoners would be possible.

Indian Ocean: Countering criticism regarding lack of headway in achieving the peace zone status for the Indian Ocean, Mr Rao said India was taking a leading role in the U.N. committees in New York. At the UN during the special session, India hopes, after wide-ranging consultations with other Foreign Ministers, to evolve the contours of a stand on the issue. The process would go on till the 1981 Colombo Conference to consider the issue with all its ramifications.

Non-alignment as a concept must adapt itself to the changing situations if it was not to become a "mantra".

Self-Reliance in Science

The lapses and deficiencies of science and the need for achieving self-reliance in various fields of technology were highlighted at a conference of scientists and science administrators held in Delhi on August 2 and 3 to discuss the science and technology component of the Sixth Five-Year Plan.

The Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, called for in-

creased investments to ensure self-reliant development and identified the area of solar and other renewable sources of energy for intensified effort.

Swift scientific efforts were needed to develop renewable sources of energy to reduce the country's dependence on fossil fuels and to help safeguard the country's environment. The scientific community must also give a lead in the know-how for the exploitation of the marine and sea-bed resources, for which the P.M. promised administrative support.

A sound science and technology plan was a crucial segment of the general plan and self-reliance must be at the very heart of S & T planning. "There can be no other strategy for a country of our size and endowment".

Sometimes, considerations like security, the time factor, a performance guarantee and costs compelled India to buy advanced technology from the international market. But in the ultimate analysis neither real defence nor real development could be bought or borrowed.

Results of indigenous research must be integrated with the development process and kept in mind while deciding on import of technology. Fiscal policies should be so evolved as to encourage utilisation of results of research and indigenous capabilities rather than supporting indiscriminate import of technology and goods.

Mrs Gandhi wanted a programme to be worked out to assimilate technology that may have to be imported for urgent and inescapable needs to obviate repetitive imports at the earliest. To ensure this, research and development experts should be associated to a greater degree in the work of project assessment and import decision. In modern technology, a late starter

could not catch up and a country like India could take short cuts but the advanced countries would always retain their advantage.

There was a belief that Indian science had not yielded results commensurate with the investment. Some of this criticism was based on ignorance and stemmed from the national pastime of playing up shortcomings while ignoring achievements. Many scientists felt that they could do better if there was a clearer definition of tasks and less bureaucratisation. Every organisation and every scientist should make a determined effort to find the right answers rather than *alibis*.

Unemployment Soars to 8 Million

Despite the Five-Year Plans and a series of other projects for the country's economic development and for generation of more job opportunities, unemployment in the country is increasing fast. At the end of 1979 the number of educated unemployed had risen to 7.3 million and the latest figures is in the neighbourhood of 8 million, according to the live registers of Employment Exchanges. The poor performance of the economy during 1979 had contributed to the soaring unemployment.

The "daily status" unemployment in the age group 15-59 was 16.8 million in 1977-78, according to the 32nd round of the National Sample Survey. The Ministry's estimate is based on the level which, some Ministry sources admit, "may well be higher now than in 1977-78" in view of the poor performance of the economy in 1979-80.

There were 7.3 million educated persons on the live registers of Employment Exchanges in 1979. Of these, 3.99 million were matriculates, 1.88 million higher secondary or under-

graduates, 1·3 million graduates and 116,000 post-graduates. Kerala and Bihar each had over half a million matriculates on the registers, but in view of the fact that Kerala's population (21·35 million) is about a third of Bihar's (54·34 million), the percentage of matriculates on the registers of Kerala to the population would be the highest in the land.

The Ministry has estimated that the cost of providing unemployment allowance only to those registered in Employment Exchanges and without jobs for the last three years and in low income groups on the West Bengal-Kerala pattern, would be Rs. 88 crore annually.

The Central Government's view is that an unemployment allowance to the educated would be a "frittering away" of the resources of the Government which should be put to productive use to create enduring job opportunities.

The annual cost of unemployment allowance (or dole) of Rs. 50 per month per head to the country would be Rs. 1050 crores, according to an official estimate.

India to Make Missiles

India has decided to manufacture missiles and a project for this purpose has been taken in hand. This information was given to the Defence Ministry's Consultative Committee of members of Parliament under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister on August 1. It was also informed that the first prototype of the main battle tank was expected to be available for trials by the end of next year.

Defence scientists are at present engaged in developing a sophisticated system for the navy such as sonar for the frigates, modern torpedoes and advanced systems for sonobuoys.

In the field of aeronautics, the development of a gas turbine engine was being actively pursued. A "GTX" engine, when fully developed, could provide better thrust characteristics to indigenous future fighter aircraft. In electronics, the Defence Research and Development Organisation was engaged in research and development of a number of sophisticated items.

Defence scientists were also engaged in developing advanced technology in the field of material technology and metallurgical as well as high temperature resistance plastic materials. The efforts of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) were directed towards achieving self-reliance as far as possible. "Our effort is to make as much equipment as possible with maximum efficiency."

The DRDO was fully aware of the fast changes in defence technology and it took note of them while formulating its research and development programmes.

According to the Prime Minister, financial constraints were not the main impediments in the research and development programme. She called for "tightening up" of co-operation and interaction between the DRDO and other agencies involved in research and manufacture of equipment. The committee was informed that the production value of items developed by the DRDO was about Rs. 280 crore. It was now being reorganised to take up major projects and was poised to develop a large number of sophisticated equipment for which the technology did not exist in the country so far. Though India was buying equipment from abroad, foreigners would not be allowed to get information affecting national security.

German Submarines: India will buy two submarines from

West Germany at a cost of between 300 and 400 million Deutsche marks. The West German Government has approved the proposed deal between the Indian Government and (HDW) Hamburg Kiel, according to a Government spokesman. The two submarines, to be built in Kiel, will be ready for delivery by the middle of 1983.

Cease-Fire in Mizoram

After many months of turmoil and fighting, which caused a heavy loss of life and property, a cease-fire was declared by the Mizo National Front (M.N.F.) in Mizoram on August 1. The security forces suspended their operations against the insurgents in the disturbed Union Territory in pursuance of the accord reached between the Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, and the M.N.F. chief, Mr Laldenga. Mr Laldenga has directed his supporters in the armed wing of the underground to stop all rebel activities, including fresh recruitment and collection of taxes, and revocation of the "quit Mizoram" order for non-Mizos. The Government has reciprocated the gesture by recalling the troops to their parent stations.

However, the security forces have been asked to maintain strict vigil along the international border with Burma and Bangladesh to prevent illegal traffic across the border and to maintain law and order in the Union Territory. With the implementation of the Indira Gandhi-Laldenga accord, the way has been paved for resumption of a fresh dialogue to resolve the Mizo tangle.

The accord reached in New Delhi following two rounds of discussions between the two leaders recently was on the basis of the agreement signed by Mr Laldenga on July 1, 1976, whereby the MNF leader accept-

ed the Indian Constitution, agreed to eschew violence and bring overground his men along with their arms.

The cease-fire by the MNF leader and the suspension of operations by the security have been unanimously welcomed by the Mizos as harbingers of a lasting peace and stability.

The people of Mizoram were jubilant at the return of peace to the violence-scarred Territory.

It is understood that Mizoram will soon be a full-fledged State on the pattern of Meghalaya and Manipur. Upgrading of the Union Territory's status forms part of the understanding between the Union Government and the Mizo National Front.

The agreement has three components—the underground as well as the security forces will cease-fire; the executive committee of MNF will meet within a month and a representative delegation of the MNF will arrive in Delhi for talks on a political settlement within the framework of the Constitution.

Until the proposed negotiations bear fruit, the present Government in Mizoram led by Brigadier Sailo is unlikely to be disturbed. Although Mr Laldenga has been insisting on imposition of President's rule in Mizoram, he has been made to realise that he shall have to put up with Brigadier Sailo for the time being. As regards his apprehension that Brigadier Sailo might scuttle the accord by fomenting trouble and blaming it on the MNF, the Centre has assured him that such a thing would not happen. In fact, an enquiry has been promised into the allegations made by him.

While Laldenga has agreed to suspension of shooting, political murders and other forms of violence, there was no agreement on whether other under-

ground activities like collection of "taxes", recruitment of youngsters for the movement, verbal intimidation, threats and physical harassment and propagation of secessionist ideas would be stopped.

Voting Age to Stay at 21

For the past many years the country's youth have been hoping that the voting age would be reduced to 18. Several political parties have promised to carry out such an electoral reform, but it appears that the proposal has been dropped for the present.

The Janata Government had practically decided to reduce the voting age and was in the process of approving this and other electoral reforms when it was toppled. The present Government feels that because of its "far-reaching implications" the matter needs further consideration.

In 1971 the Parliament's Committee on Petitions and the Kerala Assembly proposed the reduction in voting age to 18. At that time the Cabinet decided to defer a decision on it, pending examination of such questions as the physical problems relating to the enlargement of the electorate as a result of the proposed change and other matters.

Certain quarters have pointed out the incongruity in having the voting age as 18, while a number of other statutes like the Indian Majority Act, 1897, the Guardians and Wards Act, 1890, the Indian Succession Act, 1925, the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872, and the Special Marriage Act, 1954, stipulated for certain purposes 21 years as the age of majority.

In Belgium, Fiji, Greece, Italy, Ivory Coast, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malawi, Malaysia, Senegal and Sierra Leone the voting age is 21, while it is 18 years, among others, in Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil,

Canada, Finland, France, West and East Germany, Sri Lanka, the Soviet Union, Britain and the U.S.A.

Apart from the argument that one does not attain maturity at 18 years of age, it is stated that the standard of youth in India is not on a par with that in countries like the U.S.A. with a higher standard of living.

There will be an increase in the size of the electorate by about 43 million if the voting age were to be cut to 18. Nearly Rs. 1 crore more would have to be spent in enumerating the extra voters. Then there would be additional cost on account of employing more polling personnel, having more booths, printing more ballot papers, etc.

New Body to Check Tax Evasion

To counter the mounting trend of tax evasion (the amount thus evaded runs into hundreds of crores) the Union Government has decided to set up an organisation which will collect "higher intelligence" information.

The Finance Minister, R. Venkataraman said on August 5 that the organisation would be used, among other things, to build up dossiers of cases involving large-scale tax evasion so that they could be used for making searches and seizures.

The Government proposed to curb the growth of black money through more effective implementation of tax laws and launching a drive against hoarding and profiteering. He listed various steps being taken by the Government, including empowering the Deputy Directors of Inspection and the Inspecting Assistant Commissioners for search and seizure under the Income Tax Act, 1961.

For detecting persons having taxable income or wealth but who are not paying tax and for collecting information about

existing tax-payers, survey operations have been intensified by the Income Tax Department. A permanent organisation to undertake survey on a continuing basis was now being built up.

It had been recently decided to give multi-media publicity to cases in which tax evasion had been established immediately after conviction for tax offences. This has been done to give wide publicity as a deterrent to other tax evaders.

The organisation for handling prosecutions launched by the Income Tax Department was being strengthened.

New Steps to Check Prices

Despite the threats to traders and other measures taken by the Government, the prices continue to rise, causing much hardship to the people. At the current rate, it is feared that inflation may mount by 25 per cent this year against the 20 per cent increase in 1979. On August 5, the Union Civil Supplies Minister disclosed in the Rajya Sabha that Government was thinking of imposing price control to meet the situation. The Essential Commodities Act would be amended and the supply administration would be tightened.

The after-effects of the 1979 drought, the shortfalls in production and the international market situation have made their inevitable impact, worsened by costlier petrol, diesel and coal. It is because of the cumulative impact of all these factors (and also because of the current lean season) that the inflationary conditions are still continuing and there is shortage of some commodities like sugar and gur.

The main thrust of the Government policy for curbing inflation is to increase production and the supply of goods. In addition, steps have been taken to control excess liquidity pre-

sent in the economy. The monthly releases of cereals from the Central pool and imports of edible oils for sale through the public distribution system were stepped up substantially.

The number of fair price shops, particularly in drought-affected States, had gone up during the last six months. The supply of kerosene to States had been raised. Several measures had been taken to improve the movement of essential commodities by railways.

The Union Government had requested the State Governments to implement vigorously the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act and the orders issued thereunder, as well as the Prevention of Black Marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980.

Currently, most of the price rise was due to the increase in the prices of sugar, khandsari and gur, the recent increase in the prices of petroleum products and the seasonal factors which had pushed up the prices of commodities like vegetables, fruits and edible oils. The rainfall so far has been normal and under its favourable impact the Government expects that the production of agricultural commodities in short supply now will increase substantially, and so also generation of increased electricity will lead to enhanced production in factories in the coming months. The Government hopes that the favourable factors, combined with various steps taken by the Government, will increase the availability of essential commodities and help in keeping inflationary pressures under check.

Plan for Nuclear Energy

Ambitious plans have been drawn up by the Government of India for generating more nuclear power to partially offset

the substantial shortage in this field. The country is expected to achieve nuclear power generation capacity of 860 mw by 1980-81, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi disclosed in the Lok Sabha on August 6.

The target contemplated by the Atomic Energy Commission envisaged a nuclear power generation capacity of 8,000 mw by 1980-81. But a task force of the Department of Atomic Energy in 1973 had recommended that the nuclear power generation capacity by that year be fixed at 1,240 mw considering the difficulties encountered in achieving the desired results.

The reasons given by Mrs Gandhi for non-fulfilment of the targets originally envisaged are the inability of the industrial infrastructure to cope with any faster programme, inadequacy of the transportation system for handling large and heavy pieces of equipment, need to redesign the reactor units to make them more efficient and economical and to adapt them to suit the capabilities of the Indian manufacturers.

The embargo imposed by certain countries on the supply of nuclear equipment to India and difficulties encountered in indigenisation of manufacture and fabrication of certain equipment are the other reasons stated for the non-fulfilment of the target.

Radio-activity released by nuclear power plants in India did not pose any health hazard to the people.

Regarding the supply of enriched uranium by the U.S. for the Tarapur atomic plant, the position is that the President of the U.S.A. authorised the export of both the pending shipments of enriched uranium by an executive order, subject to review by the U.S. Congress. The period of Congressional review was expected to conclude by the end of September.

Pak N-Free Zone Plan Rejected

For securing some more propaganda gains, Pakistan renewed early in August a four-point proposal for declaring South Asia a nuclear-free zone. It had first mooted the proposal in 1974. India on August 4 rejected the proposal because it did not see anything new in it. Besides, Pakistan had not consulted this or any other country of the region in this regard.

Spelling out the Indian position, an official spokesman said the initiative for the establishment of such a zone should be taken on the basis of mutual consultations. Another precondition was that the region proposed should be defined as geographical areas and not artificially described as "South Asia". He pointed out that South Asia was only a sub-region of the wider region of Asia. India was, therefore, opposed to committing the proposal only to South Asia.

The third condition stipulated by India was that such a zone should be in accordance with arrangements freely arrived at by the countries of the region. These points had found endorsement in the report of an expert group established by the UN Committee on Disarmament to study the question of nuclear free zones.

Pointing out that the UN General Assembly had approved the report of the group, the spokesman said Pakistan's suggestion was not "practical".

India's position is not to accept any arrangement of safeguards which would not be applicable to all the other countries in the world. The system of safeguards should be non-discriminatory and should apply universally to nuclear weapon and non-nuclear-weapon States. It should also encompass all nuclear facilities, whether it be for weapons or for peaceful purposes.

India had not accepted the NPT because it was unequal and discriminative. But India's non-acceptance of the NPT has nothing to do with the position of any other country.

New Power Tussle in Ocean

With the U.S.A. and the Soviet Union rushing reinforcements to the Indian Ocean to strengthen their military presence in the region, the Big-Power tussle has become more intense. Both Powers justify their action by quoting the military strategy on their rival. On August 1, India's External Affairs Minister, Mr P.V. Narasimha Rao, spoke of the "increased military presence" of the Soviet Union on the periphery of the Indian Ocean subsequent to Moscow's involvement in Afghanistan. Russia had increased its naval presence in the western Indian Ocean. The Soviet Union had thus responded to the "enhanced U.S. naval presence" in the area. The Soviet Union's position had been that it was in favour of making the Ocean a zone of peace. There was a possibility of confrontation.

Mr Bhupesh Gupta (C.P.I.) had said that the Soviet Union had offered to co-operate with India in its efforts to make the Indian Ocean a zone of peace. Therefore there was no point in equating it with the U.S. Instead, we should take the U.S.S.R.'s help in this regard. India had supported the demand of Mauritius for restoration of the island to it. He recalled how India had objected to the U.K. leasing the island to the U.S.A. in 1965.

As for the reported stockpile of poisonous gases and other weapons in the Ocean, the Minister pleaded his Government's ignorance. However, he promised to look into the matter and if found correct, he

said we would take all possible steps against it.

Mr Narasimha Rao said a conference on the subject was due to take place in Colombo, as desired by the U.N. India is now preparing for the conference and would seek implementation of the 1971 U.N. declaration on the Ocean as a zone of peace. As for lodging a protest against the U.S., India had done it on more than one occasion.

The expansion of the military base at Diego Garcia was inimical to the peace and stability of the region as a whole. "Not only does it involve an escalation of tensions but it also raises the spectre of great-power confrontation in the region."

The initiative to get back Diego Garcia from Britain "must come from Mauritius itself."

U.S. Defends Diego Garcia: The United States said at the U.N. on July 31 that the Soviet Union had more than 100,000 troops in Afghanistan; and it defended on that ground the U.S. military presence in the Indian Ocean and its use of Diego Garcia island as a military base.

The U.S. delegate, Mr Jerome Kahan, gave the 100,000 figure in a speech in the U.N. Special Committee on the Indian Ocean. He wondered why the Soviet ambassador, Mr Lev Mendelevich, had expressed worry about two American aircraft-carriers temporarily in the Arabian Sea, when just a few hundred miles north, the Soviet Union possesses a few score of these, with hundreds of planes. "We cannot ignore the massive presence of Soviet land-based ground and air forces inside and adjacent to the border of Afghanistan."

(Contd. on page 88)

Current International Affairs

World Women's Conference

Like the first World Women's conference held in Mexico in 1975 as a part of the Women's Decade, 1975-85, (declared by the U.N.) the second conference held for 18 days in Copenhagen, ended on August 2 and was a virtual failure, thanks to the split, the discord, the jealousies and several political factors. The conference marked the completion of the first half of the Women's Decade and approved the programme of action for the second half of the decade (1980-85). Despite the progress in the sphere of women's equality, on the whole the tasks set for the decade have not been fulfilled.

In a number of countries the situation has grown worse. In developed countries women were the first to fall victims to unemployment and an aggravating economic crisis.

The final account of the programme of action was approved wholly by 94 countries. The United States, Canada, Australia and Israel voted against, and 22 delegations abstained. The programme pointed out that it was in peace conditions along that progress was possible. It said women's equal participation in the development of friendly relations and co-operation between States would promote peace and struggle against imperialism and colonialism. It would also promote respect and dignity of the people and their right to self-determination and independence and ensure basic

human liberties and rights, the programme added.

The conference approved a resolution condemning all racist regimes and all countries collaborating with them. The delegates urged all countries to sign and ratify the international convention on elimination of all forms of racial discrimination. The U.S. and other Western countries opposed the resolution.

The conference urged the UN General Assembly to consider the situation in Salvador, expressed concern and anxiety at the violation of human rights in Chile and noted the violation of the process of democratic development in Bolivia following a coup.

The 1,500 delegates to the conference hailing from 140 member-countries of the United Nations were of the view that nothing much had been achieved in the past five years, that there was not much more hope about progress over the next five, and that another decade would be needed to see some results for the betterment of women, especially in the developing countries of the Third World.

Inaugurated by the Secretary-General of the U.N., the conference ended without reaching any agreement on an action programme. In committees and group sessions there were debates on equal wages for equal work, more employment and better education and health facilities and the right to have abortion. At least 14 delega-

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tions were entirely composed of men. On the whole the conference was dominated by ideological rifts, Zionism, racialism and the Palestine problem.

Non-aligned Move on Palestine

Israel and Palestine are in the news again. Israel recently made Jerusalem its capital, violating the understanding with the U.N. and Egypt, and it still retains Arab territories.

India and 28 other non-aligned countries on July 27 tabled a resolution for a special session of the General Assembly, calling upon Israel to withdraw unconditionally before November 15 from all the Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied by it since 1967. In the event of default by Israel, it requested the Security Council "to consider the situation and the adoption of effective measures under Chapter VII of the U.N. Charter."

The 29-nation resolution is a modified version of an initial Arab draft which had proposed the creation of a U.N. force to take over territories to be vacated by Israel and hand them over to their rightful Arab claimants, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

The modifications were made in an effort to prevent the nine West European States from joining with the U.S.A. in voting the draft. Still, doubts persisted on the manner in which these States would vote.

The modified draft authorised the U.N. Secretary-General to take measures to implement the recommendations of the Palestine Rights Committee "as appropriate" in consultation with the Committee. The Committee's recommendations include the return of the Palestinian refugees to their homeland and sets the modalities for the exercise of self-determination by

them, long denied by Israel. The Committee had also recommended that in the event of non-compliance by Israel, the Security Council "may find it necessary to establish a force." The new draft also recognises the right of the Palestinians to have a sovereign State of their own.

The Deputy U.S. Ambassador, Mr William Hevel, described the original Arab proposals "totally one-sided and totally unrealistic". The Camp David process alone could ensure a just solution.

The Iranian diplomat, Mr Ali Shams Ardekany, criticised U.S. policy towards Iran in the past and said "the Islamic republic of Iran was for 26 years hostage to the U.S.A."

Pakistan, on behalf of the 40-member Islamic group, asked for an immediate meeting of the Security Council on Israel's law for the annexation of Jerusalem.

Resolution 476 prohibits Israeli changes in Jerusalem. Paragraph 6 says that if Israel flouts that resolution, the Council will meet again to examine "ways and means" to deal with "Israeli recalcitrance".

Meanwhile, Turkey has recalled its chief diplomatic representative in Israel for consultations in protest against the Israeli decision to proclaim Jerusalem as the capital city. Turkey is one of the few Muslim countries which maintain relations with Israel.

Pak N.-Bomb within a Year

Pakistan's fast developing nuclear capability and its feverish acquisition of sophisticated weapons are becoming evident. That country has been purchasing military equipment from various sources.

Items of defence equipment have been acquired from various

sources, but an interesting point that emerges is that much of the modern weaponry of the Pakistan armed forces, particularly its air force, has been obtained from France.

Pakistan has about 110 Mirage 3s and 4s, supplied over the past few years while the French Secretary of State, M. Stirn, announced earlier this year that Pakistan had ordered a further 32 Mirage-5 strike/ground attack aircraft which are due for delivery during 1981-83.

The purpose of another 18 Mirage-5s is being examined, while reports suggest that Pakistan is considering buying 40 Mirage-2000 interceptors, the same planes that France has offered to India in place of the Jaguar.

Recent Pakistani defence purchases from the French include Crotale surface-to-air missiles and Matra air-to-air missiles (in the R-530 and R-559 variety), as well as several hundred runway-penetration bombs.

The Pakistan Air Force has also acquired 30 French Puma helicopters, four Super Frelon helicopters, while naval purchases include three Breugal Atlantique maritime reconnaissance aircraft, two Alouette anti-submarine helicopters and substantial quantities of Exocet AM 39 anti-shipping missiles.

The Pakistan army recently bought TAM medium tanks from Argentina and 40 Asroe anti-tank missiles from the USA. Other U.S. supplied equipment includes M 47/48 tanks, while China supplied 700 T-59 Soviet tanks. Pakistan is now preparing to stockpile fissile material for nuclear weapons. Western intelligence analysts believe that another pilot reprocessing plant is under construction at Pinstech, near Rawalpindi, from which Pakistan may manufac-

ture plutonium for its first explosion.

The International Institute for Strategic Studies, London, in its annual report for 1979, has stated that "although technical difficulties in implementing and engineering the centrifuge designs still could slow the programme in early 1980s, within one to four years Pakistan would have enough highly enriched uranium for five to seven nuclear bombs a year."

The report says that "any country which, like Pakistan, is bent on acquiring a nuclear-weapons capability, cannot be stopped, and at best can only be delayed." Throughout President Zia-ul-Haque responded to the growing international criticism by denying that his country intended to build a bomb, asserting that the controversial facility at Kahuta was an integral part of Pakistan's legitimate nuclear energy plans.

Pakistani actions involving the construction site at Kahuta, about 40 km south of Islamabad, lent no credibility to these protestations, however, and it seems clear that something beyond a commercial nuclear plant is being built there.

First, Pakistan might complete development of her centrifuge facility, begin to stockpile highly-enriched uranium but stop short of testing a nuclear explosive device. Secondly, Pakistan might detonate a peaceful nuclear device in the early 1980s but then announce that she does not intend to go further. The third alternative is that Pakistan would choose to test a series of nuclear weapons so as to master more advanced design techniques and gain confidence in its weapons.

There have been suggestions that Libya or another Arab country is financing Pakistan's centrifuge programme and though General Zia has denied

such a connexion, rumours of an "Islamic Bomb" cannot be dismissed out of hand. The possibility of a transfer of Pakistani nuclear weapons as a *quid pro quo* for financial help in acquiring them could not be completely discounted.

Another Watergate—"Billygate"

The Watergate scandal in the U.S.A. ruined President Richard Nixon's political career. And now yet another scandal, termed as "Billygate", involving President Carter's brother, Billy Carter, may spoil the electoral chances of the present incumbent of the American Presidency.

Mr Billy Carter, after initial denials, has admitted having received large sums from Libya. Thus he acted as a foreign agent. On August 4, President Carter informed his countrymen that while he is deeply concerned that his younger brother has received funds from Libya and that he may be under obligation to Libya, Billy has had no influence on U.S. policies in the past, and "will have no influence in the future".

He repeatedly emphasised that neither he nor any member of his Administration has violated any laws or committed any improprieties—either in furthering Billy's role as a foreign agent for a Government whose relations with the U.S.A. "are in frequent and sharp disagreement"; or in protecting Billy from investigation and possible prosecution by the U.S. Department of Justice for being forced to acknowledge it.

President Carter sent a detailed report to the U.S. Senate Committee set up to investigate what is now being called "Billygate". The report included at least one highly personal letter which the President wrote to his brother, trying to dissuade him from having any further dealings with the Libyan

Government (which uses revenue from exports to U.S. oil companies to finance global terrorism).

A rebellion is now underway, enormously fuelled by "Billygate", to make the convention an "open" one. This would free the delegates who earlier had been lined up in the State primary elections to make Mr Carter the party choice.

President Carter made it clear that, in his mind, the rebellion was being instigated by Senator Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts, his only challenger, who lost to him in the primary elections last spring and now wants the party nomination.

Mr Jimmy Carter's need for protection was twofold: the jeopardy of not only losing to the Republican Party's Presidential candidate, former California Governor Ronald Reagan, in the November 4 election, and the jeopardy of not even receiving the Democratic Party's nomination to run against Governor Reagan. (On August 12 Senator Kennedy withdrew from the field and Mr Carter's nomination as the Democrat nominee became certain).

One statement which the President made unhesitatingly in answer to questions, was that he learned about Billy receiving two cheques for \$ 220,000 from Colonel Gaddafi's Libyan Government (last December and this March) only by reading about it in the newspapers in July this year.

Mr Carter repeatedly described his attempts to dissuade a head-strong younger brother from his Libyan connections. But he readily acknowledged that when his wife, Rosalynn, suggested using Billy for Libyan connections to help free the U.S. diplomats seized in the U.S. Embassy in Teheran last November 4, Mr Carter endorsed

the matter as "worth the try".

Mr Carter said that following Billy's intermediary role—or because of it, he cannot prove—Libya did intend to come out publicly to urge the release of the U.S. hostages, and Gaddafi did send a special emissary to the Ayatollah with his personal plea.

World Nuclear Expansion

Despite the non-proliferation Treaty signed by 115 countries more and more nuclear weapons have been developed and several states are fast developing the requisite technology. In another decade the position may become uncontrollable. Arms control negotiations are currently being held in Geneva to review the 1968 Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty amid reports that more than 30 countries will be able to develop nuclear weapons in 10 years time if the treaty and other safeguards are abandoned. France and China are among the countries still outside the N.P.T.

A researcher from the privately-funded Swiss Graduate Institute of International Studies, Mr Theodore Winkler, said recently that in 10 years or less, 30 countries, in addition to the five nuclear weapons Powers, would have the potential to develop nuclear arms.

Other experts agreed that India could join Britain, China, France, the Soviet Union and the United States in possessing nuclear weapons. South Africa, Pakistan, Taiwan and Israel may now have the necessary knowledge.

The treaty, ratified by Britain, the U.S., the Soviet Union and 112 non-nuclear-weapon States, forbids the spreading of nuclear weapons technology while promoting peaceful uses of atomic energy, including electricity generation.

Non-nuclear countries strongly criticise the arms race and complain about the reluctance of nuclear powers to help develop peaceful atomic energy.

Article 6 of the Treaty obliges the weapons Powers to negotiate in good faith and complete their side of the bargain. There was no inducement for States on the threshold of nuclear weapons technology to exercise self-restraint.

The Institute of International Studies has identified India, Pakistan and Taiwan as likely to possess a limited nuclear arsenal soon, followed by Israel, Libya and South Africa. Argentina, Brazil, Egypt, Iraq and South Korea also belonged to 11 countries designated "critical nuclear threshold States".

Britain is expected to oppose any proposal to amend the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty. Britain seems to hold the view that such moves could only weaken the treaty and thus undermine the basis of the Western concept of non-proliferation.

The review conference presents another opportunity for a major international debate on the need for nuclear disarmament, but it is more likely that it would become a confrontation between nuclear weapon States and non-nuclear weapon States.

India, which has refused to sign the NPT because of its discriminatory nature, is certain to once again underline the basic weakness of the treaty, the inherent division of nations into two classes—nuclear weapons States which have all the privileges and no restrictions (except for the undertaking not to transfer nuclear weapons) and all other nations which have to accept certain restrictive obligations.

New U.S. Nuclear Strategy

On August 5, U.S. President Jimmy Carter formally approved a "refined" nuclear strategy designed to deter a possible Russian attack by making the Soviet military-industrial complex and Soviet leaders prime targets for U.S. retaliation.

The doctrine has been undergoing refinement for about three years, evolving from policies under the previous administration aimed at giving the President a wider range of options than destruction of cities. The policy became official doctrine with the President's signature in recent weeks.

Basically, as one official put it, "it makes clear that we have many more choices than Armageddon or surrender", although the U.S. would retain the fundamental ability to destroy some 200 Soviet cities if all else failed.

U.S. strategists believe that Russian leaders would be deterred from launching any attack if they understood that the U.S. had the ability and the intention to knock out "the things the Soviets value most". In these valued things, the U.S. officials place Soviet war-supporting industry, command bunkers, nuclear storage sites, lines of communication, airfields, missiles, silos and other vital resources and facilities.

The new doctrine, which the U.S. Defence Secretary, Mr Harold Brown, has called a "countervailing strategy", was first given wide publicity by Mr. James R. Schlesinger when he was the Nixon administration's Defence Secretary in 1974. Two new U.S. weapons now under development were vital to the "countervailing strategy".

They said the new mobile missile was crucial to the strategy because it would be designed to survive even a massive Soviet first strike; it was accurate

enough to strike back reinforced concrete and steel bunkers and heavily shielded factories even below ground.

The new Cruise missile, which would be launched in large numbers from B-52 bombers, is also considered a critical weapon because of its accuracy, the power of its nuclear warhead and because of what American officials believe is likely to be Soviet helplessness to defend against such a weapon.

Thus, moves and counter-moves are being made by the giant Powers to meet imaginary situations, regardless of the cost.

Russia's Grand Strategy

The Russian intervention in Afghanistan was no part of a grand strategy to reach warm-water ports and control Middle East Oil supplies, according to a British Parliamentary report.

The House of Commons Select Committee on Foreign Affairs said in a report released on August 4 that the Soviets moved into Afghanistan in order to maintain a Communist regime there and restore stability on their borders. Nevertheless, the panel urged closer consultations between the United States and its allies to press the Soviets to withdraw their troops and deter further Soviet aggression. But the committee warned against a top militaristic response by the West. It identified the Palestinian problem as the crust of the unrest sweeping West Asia and recommended that the Palestine Liberation Organisation be allowed to take part in any fresh peace negotiations, provided that it recognises Israel's right to exist. According to the panel, past experience suggests that over-reliance on bases, alliances and military power could be counter-productive. A too conspicuous extension of the West's military presence may have destabilising

effects for the very regimes the West wishes to protect. The panel also stressed the need to boost economic aid to poor countries as the best means of improving relations with the Third World.

War Threat on Jerusalem

Tension over Jerusalem has been mounting and resentment among the Arabs against Israel's action is now at a high pitch, so much so that Saudi Arabia warned on August 9 that failure by the U.N. Security Council to take strong action on the Jerusalem issue could lead to war.

A commentary on the State-run Riyadh Radio also urged the U.S. not to veto any resolution on the disputed city.

The Council is to consider Israel's recent decision to proclaim Jerusalem, including the occupied Arab sector, as the undivided capital of the Jewish State.

The 40-nation Islamic conference organisation has already called for sanctions to be imposed against Israel.

The U.S. could ease the situation if it did not "pass a death sentence on any resolution which served the cause of peace and which discouraged Israel from carrying on with its adventurism", the radio said. It added that the U.S. can demonstrate to the world that its concern for Israel's existence does not mean it approves the destruction of other States, the extermination of innocent people and the forfeiture of the rights of the Arab nations.

Meanwhile Egypt has received a lengthy letter from the Israeli Prime Minister, Mr Menachem Begin, but it was unlikely to lead to an early resumption of negotiations on autonomy for the Palestinians.

The 15-page letter to President Sadat was handed over by the Israeli Ambassador to Egypt's Vice-President. Both of them told the reporters they were optimistic that the crisis in Israel-Egyptian relations over the status of Jerusalem would eventually be resolved.

Bangladesh-India Disputes

President Ziaur Rahman of Bangladesh is to have summit talks with Mrs Gandhi in Delhi in October when he intends to go there to attend the Commonwealth talks. Some of the differences between Bangladesh and India, especially the dispute over the Ganga waters, are expected to be discussed during the summit. Lately, other problems have also cropped up, including those of the maritime boundary, the new islands in the sea, and the land border demarcation. These problems were considered by the Indian External Affairs Minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, when he visited Dacca for three days (August 15 to 17). He returned to Delhi on August 18.

The Ganga waters issue has now become more complicated and, following the failure of the Joint Rivers Commission to resolve the differences, it was decided that the issue should be dealt with at the political level —at a Zia-Indira Gandhi summit. India has informed Bangladesh that it is no longer willing or able to oblige that country by giving it the share of the river water the latter demands because the depleted Ganga in the dry season threatens Calcutta airport. At the latest Joint Rivers Commission session held at Dacca in the middle of August each side reiterated its view and little progress was made.

A joint communique issued at the end of the talks stated that the two sides had agreed to intensify efforts to find a mutu-

ally acceptable solution to augment the Ganga waters during the dry season. The two countries agreed to take steps for early implementation of the 1974 land boundary agreement. On the political side, each party agreed not to let its territory to be used for hostile activity against the other.

As for President Zia's proposal for a South Asian summit (a regional forum), both sides were of the view that more preparations were necessary. In sum, the Bangladesh-India dialogue will continue; there has been no breakdown as such, though the deadlock on Ganga waters and Farakka remains. The "concrete" decisions, of which the Bangladesh Foreign Minister spoke on August 17, are however not so promising.

World Bank's Verdict

A truly bleak outlook for all countries which depend largely or wholly on oil imports is forecast by the World Bank in its report for 1980, released on August 17. All such countries will have to face heavier import bills because of the continually soaring cost of energy and the severe dislocation of the balance of payments position. The pace of growth will be slower, trade will suffer and the problems of the developing countries will be accentuated. The international climate is described as more depressing than ever since the economic choices before the majority of the countries will be severely restricted.

Mr Robert McNamara, the World Bank President, has once again suggested that the industrialised countries as well as OPEC should come forward to assist the hard-hit nations and share their burden. But, judging from past experience, there is very little hope of such gestures from the affluent countries, whether in the West, the Middle East or the Far East. Mr McNamara has also urged that

the richer nations should provide the necessary capital to the needy and open up their markets to developing countries' exports instead of depending upon narrow and short-sighted policies in energy, trade and financial assistance.

According to the latest assessment, international growth will be sluggish during the first five years of the 1980s, but a notable recovery is possible during the latter half of the decade if the necessary adjustments are made. The global economic crisis will, of course, affect all nations but the central challenge will be posed by the cost of oil which OPEC countries are likely to increase further. The crisis

is particularly severe because the real cost of oil in 1980 is 80 per cent higher than it was in 1978 and is expected to rise higher as the years pass. The low income countries will be hard hit.

The World Bank has stressed the importance of "human development" in developing countries in order to achieve the aim of accelerated growth and for reducing absolute poverty. The broad areas of "human development" to be covered are education, health, nutrition, fertility and the linkages between them. "Human development" may also help in overcoming serious administrative constraints.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

The Soviet Union also had "very substantial military base facilities" in South Yemen, on the west side of the Indian Ocean, and lately in Aden.

It should be clear to all Committee members, he declared, why the U.S. is taking action designed to reassure States in the region that we are prepared to respond to requests for assistance and to deter aggression—a prospect which cannot be seen as theoretical in light of the Afghanistan situation.

New Threat in Indian Ocean

A new threat is developing in the Indian Ocean as a result of the probable grant of air bases in Australia to the U.S.A. These bases are to be used by the long-range B-52 American bombers which carry tactical nuclear weapons. A military mission visited several sites in Australia recently.

At least two airports (near Darwin and at Learmouth, in Western Australia) have been found suitable for the purpose and this brings into the range of U.S. B-52 bombers all countries in the Indian Ocean area. This is bound to be resented by the

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Indian Government which has frequently expressed itself against the militarization of the Indian Ocean region.

Together with the naval base of Diego Garcia, the strategic capabilities of which are being strengthened, the new plan greatly improves the military presence of the U.S.A. in the Indian Ocean and could lead to heightened tensions in the region.

India feels that the Diego Garcia base has already increased super-Power rivalry in the Indian Ocean. The military and naval presence of both has risen significantly at a time when tensions in the area had mounted dangerously. The U.S.A. has now added a new dimension of strategic air power to the region by bringing in the capability to deliver tactical nuclear weapons.

The other airfields inspected by the U.S. team are at Tinsona, in northern Australia, and Townsville in Queensland. All are to be enlarged and equipped for use by the B-52s, with the object of using them as staging points for military operations in the Indian Ocean area—a development that is bound to cause concern to littoral countries.

India's New Space Feat

India entered the space age in the real sense on July 18, 1980, when its second experimental satellite launch vehicle, SLV-3, blasted off from Sriharikota island, 100 km. off the Madras coast, and put a 35 kg. "Rohini" satellite in the earth's orbit. The successful launching, made a little after 8 a.m. that day, was, by and large, an indigenous effort and enabled this country to become the sixth member of an exclusive club, the other members being the USSR, the U.S.A., France, China and Japan, who are admittedly the pioneers of the space age since 1957. The Indian satellite has since been orbiting the earth once every 97 minutes. The four-stage, all-solid propellant vehicle was developed in India by about 800 Indian scientists and engineers. The total development cost of SLV-3 is about Rs. 20 crores, the experimental launch costing Rs. 1 crore.

The "Rohini" satellite in orbit is intended mainly to measure the performance parameters of the vehicle and is being tracked by the country's national tracking network. The three major aims of the launching are: (1) achieving a fully integrated launch vehicle; (2) having a satellite evaluation of on-board systems like control and guidance motors and electronic devices; and (3) testing of the ground systems relating to the tracking, telemetry and tele-command. It may be recalled that the earlier attempt to launch the vehicle in August, 1979, proved a flop.

A Notable Milestone

The July 18 successful space success marked a milestone in the country's effort towards self-reliance in space technology on a par with international standards. It climaxes a decade of effort at perfecting India's own launch vehicle, all the major systems in the vehicle being indigenous. India's first rocket "Rohini-75" was launched on November 20, 1967; its diameter was only 75 mm. The first Indian "Centaure" was launched in 1969 with an Indian propellant. It was the result of French technology. The "Rohini" rocket family has been used for sounding the atmosphere and testing the subsystems of SLV-3. The numerous components of the vehicle were designed and tested since 1973 at the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre near Trivandrum.

The most important application of the solid propellant is in the apogee motor to be put on board India's experimental communication satellite, APPLE, due for launching later this year or early next year. The solid motor gives the crucial kick to the satellite and puts it into the synchronous orbit at 36,000 km. from the equator around the earth. The specific impulse of the solid propellant attained by engineers of the I.S.R.O., is described as equal to the best available in the world. This term means, in common language, the force of thrust produced by each pound of propellant burnt in one second at sea level and more in vacuum. It is believed that Indian space

engineers can now confidently go ahead with another experimental launch of a similar rocket before embarking on further developmental projects.

Two Indian-made satellites "Aryabhatta" and "Bhaskara" are already in orbit but these were launched from the U.S.S.R. using Soviet rockets. Weighing only 36 kg. "Rohini" is perhaps the smallest object orbited by any country in its first attempt. Sputnik-I, launched by Russia on October 4, 1957, was half a metre in diameter and weighed 84 kg. It stayed in orbit for 92 days. The first American satellite, "Explorer I", was launched on January 31, 1958. In size it was not very big but it carried out scientific experiments in space. France became a member of the Space Club in 1964 (satellite weight 42 kg.); while China orbited its first satellite "China-1" on April 8, 1970. Japan followed suit, putting a satellite in orbit the same year.

"China-1" was the heaviest satellite (173 kg.) put up by any country in the first attempt. China has put in space seven more satellites since then, some of them for military reconnaissance. China used liquid fuel for its launchers, while India has used solid fuel for all the four stages of SLV-3. India is, however, developing the liquid fuel rocket technology for its future launch vehicle (PSLVE) which is being designed to place a 66-kg. satellite at a height of 500 km. This liquid fuel technology has been given to India by France.

Space Programme

India has drawn up a programme for expanding space technology, and the Space Department intends to set up a huge propulsion and aeronautical complex for developing and testing liquid fuel engines and advanced launch vehicles. Another launch pad is proposed to be set up on the east coast at a cost of Rs. 5 million. The Space Department has built up a huge infrastructure spread over six centres that assure a faster progress in the future. The entire space complex has cost the country Rs. 200 crores—the price of four Jumbo jets.

A network of ground stations located at Sriharikota, Car Nicobar, Trivandrum and Ahmedabad joined in providing tracking and telemetry support for the Rohini satellite.

A significant interpretation of the latest space success was given by the ISRO chairman, Mr S. Dhawan, at Sriharikota soon after the launching. Obviously, India now has the potential to develop Intermediate Range Ballistic Missiles (IRBM), though the country has no plans to develop them. The country is still a long way off from putting a man in space. Any country which could place a satellite in orbit could develop IRBM. Prof Dhawan made it clear that SLV-3 was not intended to develop missile technology. But in the next seven or eight years the country could develop launch vehicles capable of carrying payloads of 600 kg. in orbit in 500-1000 km. elliptical orbit.

The end of the current decade (the eighties) is likely to see the full development of SLV and indigenous development of India's own multi-functional satellite. The first two multi-functional satellites (INSAT-I and -II) will come from abroad and the launch vehicle from NASA, in the USA. INSAT-I

(India's national satellite, is being built by an American firm) is expected to be launched next year. From then onwards there would be progressive indigenisation until both the satellite and the launch vehicle are 100 per cent Indian-made.

Pakistan's Fears

The July 18 feat will make the people of this country proud that our scientists are catching up with those of the advanced countries. India still has a long way to go, it is true, but the first significant steps have been taken, and there is reason to hope that the pace of progress will be faster as the months pass. As the payloads become heavier, the tasks will inevitably become more complex but Indian scientists are determined to develop the corresponding technology to meet new problems.

The SLV-3 success was given very little space by American and European newspapers since they regarded it as a relatively minor feat. Russia, for obvious reasons, hailed India's success. Pakistan has expressed its apprehensions that India was now well set to manufacture nuclear weapons. But Islamabad is evidently blind to the fast progress China is making; China seems to have drawn up a full-fledged programme for a stockpile of nuclear arms, presumably with the aim of overawing countries of Asia and the Far East. Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi has repeatedly given the assurance that India has no plan to make nuclear weapons.

While ruling out the possibility of manned flights by India, the ISRO chairman said the success of SLV-3 should help the country embark on a programme of sending remote sensing and communication satellites much earlier than expected. In fact, India's space programme has fixed the highest priority for remote sensing because it wanted to use satellites to map more

and more of the country's natural resources. Communication satellites would help implement the nation's literacy programme and also strengthen the communications network. But there was no ground for becoming complacent after the SLV-3 success because India is still far behind other developed countries in the field of space technology. The ISRO's programme is still heavily dependent on external assistance for practical applications.

Defence Potential

Leading space scientists are naturally reluctant to express any views on the defence potential of their latest space feat, but they concede that a vehicle that could put an object into orbit could be used to hit targets elsewhere in the world. But if an explosive was put as a payload, it would only go round and round in space; some other technology would have to be developed to bring it back to earth.

Prof Dhawan, as the chairman of ISRO, naturally deserves credit for the SLV-3 feat, but the project director, 48-year-old Dr Abdul Kalam, was equally responsible for the vehicle's commendable performance.

Indian Space Research Organisation scientists have reported in the period subsequent to the launching that the telemetry signals being received from Rohini were "good and strong" and that the mechanism was functioning satisfactorily. The signals are being received roughly every 100 minutes and the satellite was being tracked four or five times daily. Its orbiting time has changed to 97 minutes and it is spinning at the rate of 165 revolutions per minute. The original expectation was that the satellite would stay in orbit for about 100 days, but, according to a later report, it might stay in space for about three years—unless there is a mishap of some kind.

India and Pakistan : New Arms Race

Among the major tragedies of the Indian sub-continent during the last three decades and more has been the development of tensions between India and Pakistan. The world's largest democracy, which has repeatedly given ample proof of stability, both economic and political, has been compelled to face conflicts, border clashes and a host of other problems resulting directly from the hostile policies pursued by leaders of an economically and politically unstable neighbouring country. While India has been pursuing policies of peace and has repeatedly disclaimed all intentions of aggression against Pakistan, autocratic leaders of Islamabad, pressed by their own domestic compulsions, have frequently adopted warlike postures.

Somehow the totally erroneous impression persists in Islamabad circles that India wishes to wreck Pakistan. The truth, however, is that Indian leaders, right from the days of Jawaharlal Nehru, have sought to assure Pakistan that they are anxious to see a stable and prosperous neighbour. Islamabad leaders whip up the Kashmir issue time and again to be on the right side of the fanatical elements in their own country and also to divert attention from their own failure to ensure Pakistan's economic and political well-being.

The failure of the several rounds of Indo-Pakistan talks held in Delhi and Islamabad at various levels is yet another evidence of the continually disturbed relations between the

two countries. The course of India-Pakistan talks is littered with the wreckage of exaggerated hopes. The latest round of negotiations between the Pakistan Foreign Minister, Mr Agha Shahi, a polished diplomat who is no stranger to this country, and Indian External Affairs Minister, Mr P.V. Narasimha Rao, in Delhi on July 17 and 18, 1980, merely brought into sharper focus the differences between the two countries on the major issues.

Hopes Belied

The earlier expectations that, coming in the wake of Mr Swaran Singh's talks in Islamabad as a special envoy of Mrs Indira Gandhi and the visits of Mr R.D. Sathe and other Indian dignitaries, the latest round would facilitate a breakthrough, were belied. The talks proved infructuous; there was no identity of views, and the gap in outlook and approach remained unbridged. Whether the talks should have been held at all when there was an anti-Indian campaign in Pakistan on the eve of Mr Agha Shahi's trip to Delhi is a matter of opinion. The hawks in both countries even assert that the differences have lately become sharper.

Mr Agha Shahi has tried to put a gloss over the divergence of opinion and described the talks as "timely and constructive". He also claimed that the two sides were able to "acquire" better understanding of each other's viewpoint on regional developments and on carrying forward the process of normalisation of relations. The Indian

leaders, including Mrs Gandhi, who also had talks with the visiting Foreign Minister and received a personal message from the Pakistan President, Gen Zia-ul-Haque, on their part do not feel disheartened, at any rate not publicly, and still hope for the best despite the frequent setbacks and the absence of a matching response from Islamabad to the goodwill gestures from Delhi. It is of course better to keep the dialogue going than announce a breakdown. The common man, however, wonders what purpose the various rounds of negotiations serve when there is no common ground and when there is open hostility and unbounded suspicion of each other's real intentions.

The most notable development in recent months has been the frantic arms race in the Indian sub-continent. Pakistan has been feverishly shopping for arms and various types of military equipment from wherever it can get them, regardless of the effect on the peace prospects in the region. Pakistan has been securing large supplies of military equipment from the U.S.A., China and other sources. It has also sharply increased its military expenditure which is now about 45 per cent of its total annual budget. Mrs Gandhi made it clear to Mr Agha Shahi that the manner in which Pakistan was procuring arms "does not reflect the spirit of the Simla Agreement". India, on the other hand, has not done anything to violate the Simla spirit while constantly reviewing the coun-

try's defence preparedness so as to make it up to date.

Shahi's Indiscretion

Much unpleasantness was caused by Mr Agha Shahi's tactless observation, during a banquet held in Delhi in his honour on July 17, about "the ratio of forces and the level of armaments between India and Pakistan". Mr Shahi later denied that he had intended any polemical posture, but the mischief had been done. In this connection, the statement of Maj-Gen Rao Farman Ali Khan of Pakistan was recalled; he had said, in an obvious spirit of rancour, that the bulk of India's military machine was designed for deployment against Pakistan which, he claimed, could never pose a threat to India.

The pity is that Pakistani leaders often reiterate their resolve to conform to the Simla spirit, even though their actions belie their words. Mr Agha Shahi also repeated the promise in Delhi. It is also unfortunate that Pakistanis regard a strong and stable India as a threat to their own country's security. In a bid to ensure their security and to meet any threat, Pakistan has been getting entangled in military pacts and alliances despite the fact that such agreements are not in Pakistan's interest but merely make that country a tool in the hands of big military Powers. Evidently, the bitter experience of SEATO and CENTO alliances has been clean forgotten. Besides, Pakistan raises the Kashmir issue at the Islamic Conferences and also at U.N. forums, even though hardly any other country backs its stand on this bilateral problem.

For years Pakistan has turned down India's offer of a no-war pact between the two countries. It has been stepping up its defence budget even though it faces no military threat from

any source. Its fear of India is, of course, imaginary. The tragedy is that Pakistan leaders refuse to take a sensible and realistic view of the situation and allows itself to be exploited by other countries. Pakistan somehow declines to recognise the fact that both countries are sovereign and independent, with a common past. Why should outsiders be allowed to intervene? Bilateral issues should be settled bilaterally, in a spirit of friendliness and amity, not in a spirit of confrontation, rancour and suspicion.

Baseless Charge

A wholly absurd charge recently levelled against India by Pakistan (actually the charge has been brought up on previous occasions also) that this country is spurring the arms race and that it has high regional ambitions. Blaming India for compelling Pakistan to spend an unduly large percentage of its budget on armaments, Pakistani spokesmen point to the substantial arms being acquired by India from the Soviet Union and other sources. Pakistan, they point out, would readily cut down its military budget when India does so. India, they allege, is converting the region into a theatre of war. Pakistan is one-tenth of India in military capacity and cannot pose a threat to India. What is India afraid of? they ask. Actually the ratio of armed forces of the two countries is a little more than 2 to 1 in favour of India.

The annual report of India's External Affairs Ministry for 1979-80 presents the real picture in this regard. "Reactive moves" by China, the U.S.A. and other countries to arm Pakistan, it warns, can convert the sub-continent into a theatre of great power confrontation and conflict, and thus threaten the security of India. The Government of India's firm view is

that the induction of arms into Pakistan has the potential of decelerating the process of normalisation which India and Pakistan have fostered in the spirit of the Simla Agreement.

Clarifying the situation further, India's External Affairs Minister declared in the Lok Sabha on June 19 this year: "It is not possible for India to assure Pakistan that it would go to its assistance in case of aggression from outside because that would mean entering into a military pact. India's offer to Pakistan for signing a no-war pact however stands intact. The Simla Agreement is itself a kind of no-war pact." Mr Narasimha Rao also expressed the view that the press report that Pakistan intended to buy military hardware worth about Rs. 2,000 crores was likely to be correct.

Massive Arms Build-up

There seems to be no end to Pakistan's plans to buy more and more military equipment from all possible sources. Apart from the U.S.A. and China, which have been providing massive quantities of arms to Pakistan, funds have been flowing into Pakistan from Arab countries, especially Saudi Arabia which is keen on developing an Islamic bomb. At almost every Islamic country more funds are promised to Pakistan to boost its military image. Gen Zia-ul-Haque has seized the recent Indo-Soviet arms deal to justify his own country's massive arms deals with foreign Powers.

True, India should not overreact to every Pakistan move to acquire armaments, but the charge against this country of having started an arms race is false. A look at the proportion of GNP spent by the two countries indicates the reality. Pakistan spent 8.4, 7.2, 5.5 and 4.6 per cent of its GNP on military

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Is the Party System in India Decaying?

India is back, once again, to the one-party rule. Is the party system decaying? Why? Is there any alternative? These issues are discussed here.

-Editor

Political scenario

We are irrevocably committed to democracy and have practised it for 33 years since Independence. But the norms of performance, especially in the late seventies, have raised serious doubts as to whether the party system in our country has not started decaying. If the answer is in the affirmative, what accounts for this. What alternative, if any, is there for it?

The much-acclaimed democratic structure, built by the Indian National Congress, had cracks even before Independence in 1947. There was a split in 1906. But from the time Mahatma Gandhi came to lead it in the early twenties to the split in 1969 there has been no major crisis. Even the 1969 split turned out to be relatively a minor one. The party went on under Mrs Indira Gandhi's leadership until 1978 when it split again. This caused an unbridgeable schism in the "banyan tree" that Congress was.

It will be in order to refer here to the historic development marked by the emergence of the Janata Party in January 1977 when Mrs Gandhi lifted the Emergency and decided to have the Lok Sabha elections. For the first time since Independence the monolithic Congress party had been routed at the hustings by the Janata party comprising the erstwhile opposition parties/groups. Not being a coherent organisation, the Janata Party could hardly stay in power even for a single term of five years. Within the space of bare 33

months, the Party was ousted from the Centre and the process of its gradual but sure extinction has been completed with almost complete rout in the elections of the nine State Assemblies held in May 1980. The decaying Janata Party has, thus, suffered a total eclipse at the hands of the 'truncated' Congress. Mrs Gandhi has retrieved the lost ground, so soon, and restored her party to its pristine glory. Had the Congress remained united after its debacle in 1977 or had there been no infighting and factionalism in the organisation, the tenure of the Janata government would have been much shorter. In fact, the Janata party would never have emerged as a ruling party. The ill-fated Janata Party has gone the way Mrs Gandhi had prophesied at its very birth.

Decadence: causes

The political panorama has changed phenomenally over the years. The Congress party, which fought and won freedom for the country, has continued for nearly a century. But its complexion has changed. Its offshoots, under different brand names, have grown and withered away. Often, it is asked whether the continuing process of disintegration and integration will lead to polarisation. This question no doubt crucial, will be dealt with in the subsequent section. Let us enumerate here the causes of erosion of the party system.

1. *Absence of spirit of compromise:* The quintessence of

democracy is the spirit of compromise. Some people believe that assimilation, accommodation and compromise are the essential qualities of Indians and that we still have them in abundance. To cite a single instance. The free, fair, fearless and (largely) peaceful elections held every five years (barring the mid-term elections) to constitute legislatures at the Centre and the States afford ample evidence of this. The bloated electorate (360 million in the 1980 Lok Sabha elections), group rivalries, individual and party differences did certainly create problems but never have they held back the general elections.

One cannot however shut one's eyes to the fact that the opposition has invariably been giving tough time to Mrs Gandhi whether she was in office (as the Prime Minister) or out of office. Mrs Gandhi and her party have been on trial but, luckily, they have always (save once in 1977 elections) been able to weather the storm and emerge triumphant with flying colours. Her brute majority has become a 'corrupting' factor and a justification for a strong opposition.

Critics, on the contrary, aver that fragmentation of political parties—be it the Congress, the Socialists, the Janata Party or any other party—, violence at the polls as witnessed in the May 1980 Assembly elections and disturbances in the Parliament and the Assemblies are incontrovertible 'evidences' to support the charge that there is a

growing absence of the spirit of compromise.

2. *Erosion of values:* The break-up of the party system is accounted for by the erosion of our cherished values like the respect for the national leaders. Unlike the past, there is no credibility of the present-day politicians not even of those who hold the exalted office of the President or the Prime Minister. They are maligned in public; threats of impeachment have been held out to the President with an air of justice. One of the Presidents was even dragged to the court of law in an election petition against him and a Prime Minister was also similarly treated. The Prime Minister is shown scant respect by the opposition and is not treated above a commoner. All this is done in the name of democracy and the Constitution which enjoins equality before law. This attitude of disrespect and incrimination has degenerated into a habit of character assassination of both high and low. This is not to say that all politicians and statesmen are infallible and their conduct is just and right. It underlines two points: (a) only such persons should be elected who possess a minimum of the human values and the values of head and heart; (b) the people must be very scrupulous in mounting an attack on their elected representatives and especially against those at the helm of affairs.

All this points to rehabilitation of national discipline which stands thoroughly eroded in all walks of life in India. The real problem here is not that indiscipline in the widest possible sense exists but one of its removal.

3. *No ideology:* The Indian National Congress had garnered and nursed an ideology based on democracy, nationalism, secularism and socialism.

This has got diluted with the spread of the disease of splitism in that organisation and its consequent fragmentation. Without a well-defined ideology, the forces of cohesion which hold together the members of the organisation is weak and the separatist tendencies grow supreme. This is what actually happened in the case of the Janata Party. Due to the gross absence of an ideology and a leader the Party fell like a house of cards. The self-seeking ambitious leaders did not lag behind in contributing to its fall and disintegration.

4. *Caste:* The biggest party in India is caste said Jayaprakash Narayan. It is a greater factor than ideology in Indian politics and where the caste system is not as strong as elsewhere (that is in West Bengal and Kerala), the communists have done well. It is alleged that the caste appeal has been more successfully exploited by the Congress party than by others in the elections. The caste combinations change the party system as well.

5. *Leadership:* The gradual disappearance of the right type of the Congress leaders from the political scene has also contributed to the decadence of the party system. The self-seekers, ambitious and corrupt persons have come to hold the field in this and other parties. The corrupt politician, the corrupt businessman and the corrupt official are holding the country to ransom. What a dynamic and charismatic leader can achieve is now well known. Be it noted however that such a leader cannot do things limitlessly. People's co-operation and confidence is needed. At one stage the Congress Party was denied that co-operation and thrown out of power. But not long thereafter it has re-captured power, thanks to the sagacious leadership of the party.

6. *International factors:* Hardly any political party can claim immunity to international influences. The developments in other parts of the world accelerate the process of disintegration and disunity. The Assam crisis which has rocked the whole country is allegedly the handiwork of some outside elements. Fears are that the secessionist tendencies might spread elsewhere and affect the political scene.

Alternative

If the party system is decaying, what lies in the future? According to some veteran politicians, the future is equally grim. As one national leader said "all the existing political parties appear to be almost equally useless". What is most disappointing, if not disgusting, is that the future of Indian democracy rests on one individual. It is disappointing because that same 'individual' is known for practising authoritarianism rather than democracy.

Unless opposition parties, through some miracle, integrate into a single body and are capable to display viability, cohesion, direction and, above all, dedication to national interests and the good of the community, no "alternative" to the decaying party system can be hoped for.

The theory that the State governments should be in the hands of the same party as the one at the Centre implies a uni-party rule in the country. This is considered antithetical to the ideology of democracy. Mrs Gandhi argues, and rightly, that it is only under a single party rule in all the States and at the Centre that progressive measures on various fronts can be taken for a leap forward. It is only such a consideration that dictated mid-term elections in

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India's Export Performance since 1970s

For the third year in succession India's performance on the export front has been growing dismal. This feature examines in perspective the achievements in the export sector and warns against any complacency despite the comfortable foreign exchange position.

—Editor

I. Introduction: "Export or perish". This strategy of the neo-classical school dominated India's developmental plans and policies until the end of the fifth five year plan. It now stands somewhat discredited.

The *Economic Survey*, 1978-79, states unambiguously: "While a policy of the export-led growth may not be appropriate for a country of India's size and endowments, there is little doubt that a growing export sector has an important role to play in domestic development". It, therefore, emphasizes to treat exports "as an integral part of the strategy of development." An appraisal of our export performance in perspective is, thus, both necessary and desirable.

II. Growth: Exports since seventies scale a consistently rising curve. They increased to more than three and a half times: from Rs. 1535 crore in 1970-71 to Rs. 5691 crore in 1978-79. *Prima facie*, these figures tend to suggest an unprecedented success on the export front. But they are deceptive. A very significant proportion of the nominal (or money) value of exports is due to the global inflation. In terms of the quantum index, the exports were up from 106 in 1970-71 to 168 in 1977-78 (with 1968-69 as the base year).

The growth trends in exports fail to inspire optimism when juxtaposed with imports. Out of the nine years, 1970-79, India had a positive balance of trade

for two years only: 1972-73 and 1976-77. For the remaining seven years she has had an adverse balance of trade. Not only that. The negative trade balance has been uptrending from year to year, the highest since after 1976-77 being of the order of Rs. 1,064 crore in 1978-79. By the end of March 1980, it is estimated to shoot up to the staggering level of Rs. 2,800 crore due mainly to the recent price hike of crude and petroleum products by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). The import liberalisation policy adopted by the outgoing Desai's government is also to blame for this. India has been able to stand the growing trade deficit because of the comfortable position in the matter of foreign exchange reserves. It need to be examined in a little more detail as to what factors contributed to the accumulating deficits in the trade balance.

III. Growing deficits: The behaviour of exports during the seventies may be discussed in three different phases: pre-emergency phase, from 1970-71 to 1974-75; emergency phase from 1975-76 to 1976-77; and post-emergency phase from 1977-78 onward. Let us consider each.

(a) Pre-emergency phase:—This phase period is characterized by three major developments: first, the emergence of Bangladesh in 1971 as an independent neighbouring country and a partner of our export trade. The

bulk of the trade with that country was aid-financed. As the aid flows diminished in 1973-74 and 1974-75, the exports to Bangladesh declined markedly.

The second major development was the strident inflation both at home and abroad, particularly in the case of the prices of the primary goods. The unit value of exports increased from 106 in 1970-71 to 183 in 1974-75 although the net terms of trade crashed due to a steep rise in the unit value of India's imports. The increase in export earnings due to a rise in commodity price boom cannot be taken as a "sustainable basis of export growth" because the export earnings fluctuated with the changes in the commodity prices.

The third important development which influenced our export earning was the unprecedented price hike of imports of petroleum and petroleum products, fertilisers and foodgrains.

(b) Emergency era:—The recessionary trends and the reversal of the commodity boom in the industrialized countries affected adversely the international markets, including India, in 1975. The growth rates of both the exports as well as imports showed a slackening trend leading to a deterioration in the overall trade deficit of Rs. 1,229 crore in 1975-76. But 1976-77 (which, possibly, reflected the impact of the various emergency measures taken dur-

ing June 1975 to January 1977 witnessed a new turn in the trade trends. Not only was the trade deficit wiped out, but a trade surplus (of Rs. 72 crore) emerged, however modest in magnitude. "It marked a break with the preceding three years (1973-74 to 1975-76) during which there was a sharply progressive rise in the trade deficit as the growth in imports outpaced the rise in exports" says the Currency and Finance Report of the Reserve Bank of India. The change in trends, however short-lived, followed the overall fall (3·6 per cent) in imports particularly of foodgrains and fertilisers following the bumper harvests.

In contrast to the diminution of imports, exports boosted as a consequence of price stability and consumption curbs at home and low production of certain export commodities (e.g. coffee) abroad. Intense export promotion efforts also helped to augment exports.

The improvement in the net terms of trade also gave a boost to export earnings of 6·3 percentage points in 1976-77 over the previous year.

(c) *Post-Emergency phase*:— As stated before, the last two years, 1977-79 and even the current year have been marked by import liberalisation measures.

The low growth and the emergence of protectionist tendencies of the developed economies decelerated India's exports during the post-emergency years. The import-export policies aggravated the dismal performance on the external trade front. The trade deficit trends re-emerged with Rs. 621 crore in 1977-78 and Rs. 1,064 crore in 1978-79, thanks, on the one hand, to the policy to ban or regulate the export of some commodities to sustain supplies for domestic consumption and subserve price stability and, on the other hand, to the policy of

import liberalisation. Despite these handicaps, the overall performance of Indian exports in 1978-79 is not viewed as "altogether unsatisfactory in comparison with the growth of 16 per cent in world exports, 1978" by the Reserve Bank of India. This assessment is not acceptable to many critics. The massive trade deficit in the second (and even in the third) year in succession should certainly be a cause for concern. The foreign trade is in the red now. The continuance of comfortable position on the foreign exchange front is, perhaps, the only solace in the crisis in the export sector.

In the last year, the data available for the first quarter—April-June—show a rise of 25·4 per cent (Rs. 1,462 crore) compared with the corresponding period of previous year. The imports at Rs. 1,725 crore during the same quarter recorded 5·5 per cent higher than that of the same period in 1978. This means the trade deficit during the quarter will be of the order of Rs. 263 crore. This is characterised in certain sections of the Press as the only bright spot in the economic scene today. But in view of the latest escalation in price of petroleum and petroleum products by OPEC and the decline in the industrial and agricultural sectors, the prospects of any favourable trend in trade balance are very remote. (According to one estimate there will be a loss of Rs. 10,000 crore in the economy due to shortages of inputs this year). Mr C. Venkataraman, Chief Controller of Imports and Exports is credited with the view that the year 1979-80 will end up with a staggering deficit of Rs. 2,800 crore in foreign trade!

IV. Composition of exports: It is patently common knowledge that India's efforts at diversification of commodities traded in have been productive in terms of export earnings. But with the contraction of world trade

following protectionist policies of the rich nations the earnings from value-added non-traditional exports like iron and steel, leather and leather manufactures, textiles, garments and engineering goods suffered a setback. In dollar area countries, the rupee earnings fell with the depreciation in the value of the U.S. dollar currency. The bilateral trade agreements between Japan and Mexico, the slack demand for marine products in importing countries also affected adversely the growth in exports.

On the import side, the price hike of crude tilted the balance against India more than any other item. For the year 1978-79 as a whole, India envisaged record import of 15 million ton of crude oil and 4 million ton of petroleum products. The price hike of these imports caused serious upsets in trade balance and India was classified as the "most seriously affected" country among the oil-importing nation. Foodgrain scarcities and the expanding demand for fertiliser imports exerted great pressures on foreign exchange earnings but the pressure of foodgrain imports diminished considerably with increase in indigenous production.

V. World export trend: According to the International Financial Statistics, India's exports increased 45·4 per cent from \$ 4·4 billion in 1975 to \$ 6·4 billion in 1978. The world's exports (excluding the Soviet bloc) rose by 49·2 per cent (from \$ 796·4 billion to \$ 1,188·3 billion) during the same period. In global context, India's share in the world exports dropped from 0·6 per cent to 0·5 per cent in the same period, 1975-78.

In relation to exports originating from developing countries, India's share dropped from 4·7 per cent in 1975 to 4·2 per cent in 1978.

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ECONOMIC SCENE

- MRTPA—a hurdle ?
- Common Fund
- Mechanics of Inflation
- Venice Summit

MRTPA—a hurdle ?

Q. "MRTP Act has been a hurdle rather than a catalyst for speedy growth". Comment.

Ans. The Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Bill, 1967, was enacted into an Act in 1969. The Act came into force on June 1, 1970. Under this legislation, a 3-member Commission was set up with a view to (a) preventing concentration of economic power; (b) controlling monopolies and prohibiting monopolistic and restrictive trade practices by controlling the activities of "dominant" or 'large undertakings'.

Recently, the Sachar committee (1978) recommended enlargement of the scope of the Act to cover "unfair trade practices". Obviously, the title of the Act was intended to be changed to "Monopolies and Trade Practices Act" (MTPA). The operation of the Act over the last few years since the Sachar committee shows that the MRTP Act has only helped to dampen the speedy growth of the industrial sector.

In the first instance, industries governed under the MRTP Act have to seek the approval of the Commission to expansion or to setting up new undertakings even if no licence is required under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, for this purpose. The consequent delays hamper rapid growth.

Even in cases where employment opportunities were provided as a part of expansion or setting up of new undertakings, clearance of the MRTP Act had been a pre-requisite. This means joblessness till such time as the MRTP Commission okays the project.

In cases where no licensing obligations are to be fulfilled, one has to wait for the green signal from the MRTP Commission.

The Commission rejects proposals for expansion/new undertakings on flimsy grounds such as the existing capacity is adequate for the domestic demand; there is power shortage. Are these 'flimsy' excuses or realities? No critic can deny that they are stark facts. Many industries have idle capacity and many cannot operate optimally for want of power or other inputs.

There are however some conceptual misconceptions or difficulties. For instance, what is a new undertaking? If an undertaking already exists but is being acquired by another company, is it 'new' for purposes of the operation of the MRTP Act. Does it fall under that legislation?

In conclusion, one may say that MRTP Act inhibits growth due to legal lacunae in it and defective operations.

Common Fund

Q. "The 750-million dollar Common Fund constituted by UNCTAD to stabilise the raw material prices is a positive step". Discuss briefly.

Ans. The four-year old move of the UNCTAD (United Nations Conference for Trade and Development) to constitute one billion dollar fund has, at long last, materialized. But the final fund amount of only \$750 million is far less than the original target set by UNCTAD. It will have two parts: a sum of 400 million dollar will be raised through obligatory contributions of the member States for financing commodities like sugar, rubber, tin and coffee. This will ensure a steady income to producer countries and safeguard supplies to consumer countries.

A second window of \$ 350 million is meant to finance other measures such as production diversification, marketing, research and development.

The member countries are required to contribute as their first instalment only 30 per cent of their pledges. This would aggregate to \$150 million which, in real terms, would be far less in view of the gyrating inflation all the world over.

The Common Fund had been hailed by India as a "happy augury" for North-South dialogue (which has since failed).

Some however consider it "hardly sufficient to service half a dozen commodities out of the 18 selected" for stock-piling to halt the price fluctuations of raw material. However, it is a "positive step" towards the creation of a new international economic order. It will serve as a banking facility for international commodity agreements and also lend money to the poorer nations to help them diversify from dependence on one raw material.

Mechanics of Inflation

Q. Give a brief and simplified version of the mechanics of inflation (with special reference to the Indian economy).

Ans. According to the Marshallian theory, the commodity price is determined where the demand for and supply of the commodity are in balance. The market demand and supply of a commodity is the aggregate of demand and supply of all individuals in the market. This is equally true of a particular good and of all goods and services in the economy as a whole.

In the short run, demand force is more predominant than the supply force; in the long run the situation is just the reverse, that is the supply force is more predominant than the demand force. When the aggregate demand exceeds the aggregate supply in the short period, the price starts rising in response to the demand pressure and continues to do so till the demand is overtaken by the supply at a price level higher than before. The longer it takes the equilibrium to establish between the demand and the supply forces, the longer lasts the spell of the rising prices, if the market forces operate freely.

How do we measure aggregate demand and aggregate supply? The money supply may be taken as the measure of aggre-

gate demand and the real national income that of aggregate supply. In India the money supply has been increasing at the rate of 14 per cent per annum during 1970-80 while the national income rise has been just 3 per cent a year during the same period. The result is an annual increase of 8 per cent in the consumer prices. In an earlier decade, 1960-70, the average annual rate of inflation recorded 3.3 per cent rise while during 1950-60, it was only 2 per cent. Inflation in India has thus been spiralling up from decade to decade and even from year to year. This does not however mean that every commodity registered the same level of increase or that all the commodities have been experiencing a rise. Some goods had price rise, while others had a price fall or no change. Even the rate of change has been varying from one good to the other but the overall result has been a fall

in the value of money (rupee).

It follows that inflationary price rise has been due to excessive money supply in relation to the real national income (the volume of goods and services produced).

What accounts for the swelling stream of money? In the case of our country, the growth of money supply occurs (a) when the banks make advances to the government (it is termed deficit financing); (b) when the banks lend to the business sector (both the private and the public sectors). Of these two sources, deficit financing is by far more important and dangerous source-spring of inflation. The gap between the governmental revenue and expenditure has been widening over the years and this accounts for the rising curve of deficit financing. The following data in respect of the Centre and the States (combined) is revealing:

Year	Tax revenue Rs. crore	<i>As percentage of NNP</i>		Difference of the percentages
		Total tax revenue	Total expenditure	
1950-51	627	6.6	9.0	2.4
1960-61	1350	10.2	17.0	6.8
1970-71	4752	13.8	20.5	6.7
1979-80	16776	20.0	30.0	10.0

Source: Times of India, New Delhi, July 13, 1980.

The widening gap between the expenditure and the tax revenue has necessitated more of deficit financing. So long as the government expenditure is treated as the sacred holy cow and the deficit financing as the holy calf and they are left untouched as sacrosanct, deficit financing will continue to impinge upon the price front stoking the flames of inflation.

Venice Summit

Q. Write a short note on Venice Summit.

Ans. The fifth economic summit of seven major indus-

trialised non-communist countries (USA, Canada, France, UK, West Germany, Japan) held at Venice (Italy) was expected to provide an impetus for a follow-up action on the Willy Brandt Commission report on international development issues. But it has ended in a fiasco. Nevertheless, certain noteworthy points have emerged from the "apocalyptic" speeches of the top leaders. They are:

1. The summit evolved a new energy strategy. President Carter, for instance, urged for a break of the link between oil

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Disaster Ahead in 2000 A.D.

Poets and visionaries of many countries have throughout entertained fond dreams of a perfect, peaceful and prosperous world in which there would be happiness and plenty for everyone and misery or sickness for no one. They felt that the world in which they have been born, and in which they have been compelled to live, is a sheer tragedy, a closed or even a mad-house in which exploitation of human beings by the greedy lot abounds; there can never be honesty, purity of life, straightforwardness and truth because of the frauds, the deceptions and the falsehoods that surround us. But the visions have varied, and so have the individual assessments of the stark tragedy that is their lot. Many have indeed waited for the day of deliverance from the yoke of misery, convinced in their heart of hearts that there is no hope for mankind; we are condemned to a state of penury, and a life of interminable worry, so runs the argument.

For the pessimistic outlook of such people there have been several explanations, and these pertain to different spheres of activity. There have also been assessments and forewarnings of the impending doom by people stricken with sorrow and deep in the sea of trouble. The end of this mundane world has been forecast by the distinctly pessimistic group of people. The most glaring, and perhaps the most comprehensive, assessment of the shape of things to come has just been made by an American Government team comprising officials.

The study team's report, released on July 25, 1980, is in many ways soul-chilling and calls for the utmost attention by all those who have the welfare of humanity at heart. The report need not be described as politically motivated or bearing a streak of prejudice or one-sided simply because the U.S. Government sponsored it. What is more, appropriate notice has already been taken of the warnings it contains. Certain remedies have also been suggested and in the implementation of the remedies the co-operation of the entire world has been avidly sought by the head of the world's mightiest Power.

The officials, who worked for three years to study the situation, have estimated that the world population will have grown by 60 per cent—from four billion (1975 estimate) to 6·4 billion in 2,000 A.D. At the projected growth rates the global population will reach 30 billion by the end of the 21st century. Incidentally, that (30 billion) is the maximum carrying capacity of the world, according to an estimate made by another body, the U.S. National Academy of Sciences. But it is not the growth in numbers by itself that should cause worry. The really tragic aspect of the problem is that as much as 90 per cent of the population growth will occur in the poorest countries where the people will get less food. These countries are already hard hit by the complex and seemingly insoluble riddle of numbers, made even more baffling by the crippling shortages of food, shelter, job

opportunities, education facilities and other hurdles to progress. Many of these unfortunate countries have actually lost heart and have repeatedly appealed to the prosperous nations for relief and succour, but without any notable success.

The bitter lessons which the poor countries have learnt from the treatment meted out to them by the rich, remind them of what saints and sages have said over the centuries. Never respect men merely for their riches, but rather for their philanthropy; we do not value the sun for its height but for its actual and highly beneficial use, said one. Then there was another who warned that of all the riches that we hug, of all the pleasures we enjoy, we can carry no more out of this world than out of a dream. Perhaps the severest warning of the disaster that awaits those who are rich, are born with a silver spoon in their mouths and live amidst luxuries all the time came from Richard Eugene Burton, an eminent philosopher of the West, who said: "Misery assails riches as lightning does the highest towers; as a tree that is heavy laden with fruit breaks its own boughs, so do riches destroy the virtue of their possessor."

All these warnings have, however, proved to be only for the record; in actual life the rich and the prosperous do not seem to suffer in any way; riches in fact generate more wealth, and poverty breeds yet more poverty. Since this degenerating process is likely to continue in the coming decades, human misery will

mount on the one hand, and prosperity will continue to prosper further at the other end. Thus injustices will tend to get perpetuated, with little hope of redemption for the world's unfortunate souls.

The existing wide gap between the rich and the poor nations will widen in other ways also, according to the global study. The real prices (adjusted for inflation) for food will increase by about 100 per cent. Since the incomes in the hard-hit territories will not increase to that extent, food may well be beyond the reach of millions of people by then. As a dismal consequence, the millennium (period of good government, great happiness and prosperity), for which they have been waiting for decades, will never materialise. Instead, misery will become more intense, poverty more gnawing, food and accommodation more scarce. Moreover, arable land is likely to increase by only 4 per cent by the year 2000 A.D.; so any increased output of food will have to come from higher yields, which in turn depend heavily upon oil and gas, but these energy sources will become scarce indeed for the world's poor nations.

And just imagine, there would be regional water shortages too. The growth of population means that the requirements of water will be doubled. The additional sources of water are inadequate, and the loss of tropical forests means that the water sources will decrease. Less rain and less greenery will have a dismal consequence for humanity as a whole. Even more disturbing, and really startling, is the assessment that the loss of natural habitat might mean the extinction of as many as 20 per cent of the earth's animal species, especially in the tropical forests. In sum, the outlook for millions of people

will be worse than ever. What have they to look forward to in such a heart-breaking context? It is clear that profound changes are already taking place in the world in population shifts; for hundreds of millions of the desperately poor the outlook for food and other necessities of life will not be any better than it is today; it will be worse.

The sum and substance of the experts' survey is that the world has 20 years, or perhaps less, to prevent a global disaster stemming from mass poverty, malnutrition, over-crowding, food shortages and a deterioration in this planet's water and atmosphere resources. This would necessitate international co-operation without which the disaster may not be averted. If indeed real food prices would double, and energy prices more than double, by the turn of the century, many of the facilities mankind is now accustomed to would have to be discarded and a new, austere pattern of life would have to be adopted. And if on top of these shortages the potential for international conflicts and world financial crises also increases, then surely worldwide co-operation would become indispensable. Perhaps this is the silver lining in the dark and menacing clouds hovering around us; at present there is not much of international co-operation because of jealousy, greed, selfishness and a desire to stick to one's gains. But if disaster seems imminent, then adversity may compel closer co-operation. Even this is uncertain. We really must not count the chickens before they are born.

It may be noted that President Jimmy Carter of the U.S.A. has already taken measures to avert the impending disaster. A Presidential Task Force has been appointed on global resources and environment to recommend new, top priority studies as soon as possible. The

finding that sustainable economic development, coupled with environmental protection, resource management and family planning is essential, has to be followed up. Whether the vigorous action ordered by the U.S. President on the global disaster report has other motivations remains to be seen. The complacency of many nations is amazing because there seems to be no basis for exaggerations in the global 2000 report. It is indeed true that never before had any government attempted to take such a comprehensive, long-range look at inter-related problems directly affecting the world. It is, however, clear that the disaster forecast by the survey is by no means inevitable. It can be averted through worldwide co-operation; the report only contains grave warnings which, if ignored, would bring disaster.

It is also significant that the recent Venice summit declaration committed the Western Industrial nations to co-operate with developing countries in tackling global food, energy and population problems. Though the summit agreed on the need for a better understanding of the resources position, there is no certainty that the co-operation that the rich now seek from others would be forthcoming.

Many of the key issues raised in the American report have been included in the formulation of a new international development strategy. Moreover, any move, even if (as is the case now) it is for universal benefit, becomes the subject of a Big-Power controversy with the Soviet Union. As for India, the fact is that as long as a huge segment of the population remains condemned to poverty, any discussion on the protection of the environment or of preserving the ecological balance would have no meaning whatever.

Police, Crime and Society

The conduct of the police in this country has lately become the subject of a major controversy, especially after the criminal conduct of some members of the law-keeping force. The cases of assault on women involving policemen and the widespread corruption among the constables have severely damaged their image. The proposition for discussion is: "The Police will never be able to check crime."

Mr A: I think every rational person will agree that the police is inefficient and wholly ineffective for a multiplicity of reasons and it will never be able to check crime. The police is supposed to be the guardian of the people and to protect them against attacks by lawless elements, to save the weak from arbitrary acts by others and generally to maintain law and order. But just look at the policemen's dismal record. First, they are so corrupt that without accepting bribes they will not even do what is their normal public duty. They challan people initially for violating rules and later let them off after accepting some money as a bribe. Thousands of cases of theft and even murder remain untraced because police officers conveniently look the other way when such things happen; the criminals themselves are often in league with policemen some of whom share the booty. What is more, bribes are accepted openly; the policemen unashamedly demand and pocket money for registering a case, for making investigations or otherwise pursuing and disposing of a matter. The poor and innocent people who fall victims to thefts, pilfering and robbery by lawless elements can never hope for speedy and effective remedial action because they are unable to grease the palm of police officers. Constables, in fact, regard the extra money they earn through bribes as their

legitimate share; how else are we to feed our families? they ask. Until recently, the salary of a constable was so low, and the amenities for living so poor and humiliating that they felt they were justified in grabbing money right and left in order to lead fairly comfortable lives. In recent years the salaries, allowances and housing facilities of policemen have been enhanced suitably, but even then corruption among members of the force continues. How can we expect in such circumstances that the police will be able to check crime which is increasing month by month even in Delhi, the country's capital? We have only to see the number of murders, robberies, thefts and assaults in Delhi to reach this dismal conclusion. Will any rational person still have confidence in the police? If he has, he must have lost his mental balance because the facts are crystal clear, and they go blatantly against the police.

Mr B: It is very easy to abuse and condemn the police as corrupt, unreliable, indifferent, totally inefficient and hence incapable of checking crime. Well, if the police does not check crime, who will? After all, the police alone are the guardians of law and order. Countless cases of theft, violations of the law in many other ways, communal and sectional violence, student rowdyism and street brawls are traced and the culprits put be-

hind the bars. The people summon the police whenever they notice a threat to law and order or when a theft, robbery or accident occurs. Many people have no idea of the hard conditions under which policemen work and of the strenuous nature of their routine duties. Their strength is inadequate to cope with the increase in crime. The population has increased substantially in the past 50 years but the strength of the police has not grown proportionately. Besides, as economic distress mounts and life becomes harder for a majority of people, the tendency to commit crimes, to steal and rob others, develops further. The growing incidence of crime is, in fact, a phenomenon that is noticeable even in advanced countries. In the U.S.A. there are robberies and murders at day time in such large towns as Chicago and New York and the police seem to be helpless. This does not mean that the police there are corrupt. The reality is that criminals abound even in advanced society; what is more, as science progresses, criminals also acquire the latest techniques to rob and murder people without leaving many traces behind and without getting caught. In India, if policemen go about their duties lightly, say against a student mob, and do not use force, they are accused of being too "soft" and incapable of keeping the peace. If, on the other hand, they resort to a

lathi charge or to firing on finding a crowd violent and determined to attack a police station or a contingent on duty, they are taken to task for being trigger-free. Enquiries are ordered into "police excesses" and some of the policemen are suspended and even punished in other ways. Policemen are indeed placed in a difficult position both ways. As for corruption, which section of the people in this country can claim to be scrupulously honest and clean in their methods? How about the courts, the P.W.D., and the clerks and peons in Government and other offices who demand their pound of flesh for pushing up files and disposing of cases of transfers and postings? Everywhere money is used as a lubricant to get work done. Then why blame the police alone? The entire atmosphere in India reeks with corruption, and the police, after all, forms a part of our society, a product of this country's unhealthy environment. When inefficiency is the rule, it is not fair to single out the police as the villain of the piece. Besides, when my friends of the opposition contend that many crimes remain untraced and that therefore the police will never be able to prevent or check crime, they forget the numerous cases which are traced through police efforts, the riots which the police succeeds in preventing from spreading and other commendable acts of courage and bravery. The pluses and the minuses must be viewed together.

Mr C: My friend, Mr B, seems to favour the police strongly; may be he has been a beneficiary of police activity. We have only to bear in mind the large number of cases of rape of helpless women in police stations, committed by policemen themselves, to realise that the police in this country is dishonest and criminal minded.

Some people have in fact described them as "beasts in uniform" because of their inhuman, beastly conduct. Police crimes have been so many and so revolting to human values that the Union Home Minister, Mr Zail Singh, urged in a communication sent to the States recently that all police personnel involved in criminal cases should be straightaway suspended from service and proceeded against in the courts. In cases where sufficient evidence is not available to launch a criminal case, departmental proceedings should be initiated and completed expeditiously, and deterrent punishment awarded. The Central Government is itself seriously perturbed over the large number of cases of police misbehaviour with women. The recent cases of policemen's misconduct brings to the fore the entire question of the loss of discipline and the demoralisation, or rather the fall of moral standards, among the police. How greatly have Indian policemen fallen in integrity and honesty? What a sorry comparison they provide to British policemen who are always dependable, helpful, courteous, effective and a symbol of the forces of law and order? Moreover, is it not a pity that police crimes against women have almost reached the peak during a period when there is a woman Prime Minister at the helm of affairs in the country? Should we conclude that even the presence of a strong champion of women's rights in the top position makes no difference to the police who continually defy authority and indulge in criminal acts against women? I, therefore, strongly feel that Indian policemen are no good and are incapable of checking crime. Against the few cases they are able to trace, there are countless others which they are unable to trace and many cases they do not even register. When that is the case,

how can we depend upon them to do their duty?

Mr D: I would rather support the contentions made by Mr B to the effect that the police is not so bad as the people make out. The reality is that the police is needlessly abused. For one thing, there are black sheep in every profession and branch of the administration, and it cannot be denied that many policemen are dishonest and corrupt, and hence unfit to check crime. But we should remember that there are many others who do their duty earnestly and faithfully, provided they are assured reasonably good salaries, decent accommodation and other amenities. Who can deny that all these decades policemen were ill paid, and therefore virtually compelled to supplement their incomes by accepting bribes to ensure the minimum comforts of life? Secondly, the laws in the country have many loopholes; the system of appeals in courts and other provisions enable many criminals to escape scot-free by enaging clever lawyers who can always find faults with the evidence. As a result, when the cases fail in the courts, the police gets a bad name and accused of harassing innocent people. Moreover, the constant interference by politicians of all ranks and by Ministers themselves prevents the police from doing their duty. Criminals of various categories, including smugglers and other economic offenders, are often let off by the police under pressure from politicians, many of whom are hand-in-glove with such lawbreakers; perhaps they share the booty; one never knows. I would also like to point out that many allegations of rape have been found to be baseless. I do not wish to defend guilty men, but it has become a common tendency to blame the police for everything

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Shape Your Own Destiny

If we take people as they are we make them worse. If we treat them as if they were, what they ought to be, we help them to become what they are capable of becoming.

—Goethe

Man—Architect of his Destiny

Destiny means a man's appointed or ultimate lot or fate. It is not fore-ordained or predetermined. Man is the architect of his own destiny. Henley's lines still ring true:

It matters not how straight
the gate,

How charged with punishment
the scroll,

I am the master of my fate;
I am the captain of my soul.

"There is no fate", says the French Nobel Prize winner writer, Albert Camus, "that cannot be surmounted with scorn." On the occasion of one of his discoveries, his biographer A.S. Ever said to Lord Rutherford, "You are a lucky man Rutherford, always on the crest of wave!" To which he laughingly replied, "Well! I made the wave; didn't I?" and added soberly, "At least to some extent." He was the master of his destiny. His main traits were: Volcanic energy, intense enthusiasm and immense capacity for work.

The great German composer Beethoven became deaf at the age of twenty eight. In a letter to his friend Franz Wegeler, written in November 1801, he said: "I will take fate by the throat: it shall not wholly overcome me." With immense courage and a superb confidence and prodigious vitality he became the master of his fate evolving into a music genius of the highest order. His biographer, Burnett James, remarks: "Beethoven is the living example of

what the individual human being can achieve by his persistent endeavour. In time good or ill he cannot but inspire and fortify all those who attend to him..... What one individual has done another can aspire; the destiny one man has challenged and finally mastered, another has it in his power to confront."

Finally take the case of Helen Keller born a hundred years ago. Deafened and blinded by an unidentified illness at the age of nineteen months she learned to read, write and even to speak. In over 80 brave years she became both a legend and an inspiration to disabled persons throughout the world. As Alf Morris has it "Her life was a triumph of human spirit over affliction, desolation and despair". It was she who said, "Life is either a daring adventure, or nothing."

As the well-known psychologist G.W. Allport observes: the healthy person, with rich experience and maturity of outlook is able to programme his own identity. He surveys the possibilities and declares, "This builds my style of being", or "That tears it down." He can say, "This course is a good fit to my life style", or "That course is a misfit and for me a sin."

Freedom of Decision

A person's destiny is not shaped by instincts, heredity and environment. Surely man has instincts (drives) but these do not have him. He can reject them. In other words there must have been freedom of deci-

sion. As for inheritance, research on heredity has demonstrated how large is the degree of human freedom in the place of pre-disposition. For instance, twins may build different lives, on the basis of identical dispositions. Of a pair of identical twins one became a cunning criminal while his brother became an equally cunning criminologist. Both were born with "cunning" trait but this trait by itself implies no values, neither vice nor virtue.

As for environment we know that it does not make man but everything depends on what man makes of it on his attitude towards it. Thus man is by no means merely the product of heredity and environment. As Dr V.E. Frankl, President of the Austrian Medical Society of Psychotherapy, stresses there is a third element: decision. "Man ultimately decides for himself! And, in the end, education must be education towards the ability to decide."

Why you are "The Master of your Fate"?

We are the masters of our fate, the captains of our soul because we have the power to control our thoughts. Our brains become magnetized with the dominant thoughts we hold in our minds, and by some arcane means, these "magnets" attract to us the forces, the people, the circumstances of life which harmonize with the nature of our dominating thoughts. Before we achieve success and realize the top of

our ambition, we must magnetize our minds with intense desire for success in the achievement of our goals, and become achievement-conscious until the desire for achievement drives us to map out definite plans for acquiring it. As the psychologist Dr David Seabury puts it: "We know today that if you make dynamic designs in your mind of how you wish to behave, your will, like an invincible current, pours into the patterns you have created and gives you a magnetic vigour for the fulfilment of your desires. *The will obeys the thought patterns or mental pictures in your mind and operates as they command.*

The Magic of Dominant Thought

Motives are the dynamos of personality. If your dominant motive is the achievement of success you will plan your destiny accordingly and you will attract success as a magnet attracts iron filings. Let the master-thought "I will succeed" dominate your thinking process.

Remember, nothing succeeds like success-thinking and nothing fails like failure-thinking. Such is the magic of master-thought accompanied by gimlet-like concentration. Said the great naturalist, W.H. Hudson, "Ah! if you want to study adders, you must think of them all day long, you must live with them all the time you must dream adders."

You are Responsible for Your Destiny

It is clear that you are responsible for your own destiny. The responsibility is your job, and the sooner you learn this fact the sooner you will start thinking and acting like a self-reliant human being.

You must accept the fact that it is upto you to control and shape the forces that make life. None outside you has the obli-

gation to shape these for you. It is you, yourself, who is at the helm and if you do not reach your desired destination it is largely because you did not take full command.

If you do not shoulder full responsibility, the world will shape your destiny not according to your needs, potentialities and ideals but according to its own whims. It has a way of letting those flounder about aimlessly who wait for other men or forces outside themselves to chart the course of their lives for them.

Don't drift into the philosophy of letting substitute take charge. Do not rely on others to do your acting and acting for you. Those who float with the stream depending on others to clear the path of whatever flotsam and jetsam are obstructing their passage or threatening to wreck their craft cannot expect to arrive. You have to groove channels for yourselves and pilot your own way through them in order to bring your ship home.

Never lose sight of the fact that your destinies are individual things and that it is upto you personally to take charge and shape them according to your capacities, needs, levels of aspiration and ideals. They cannot be handed over to an assembly-line and come out tailor-made to fit you. They must be designed and hammered out by each one of you individually.

Each one of you is born to shape a destiny for himself. To allow forces outside yourself to shape them for you is to surrender your birthright as an individual personality. As Judith Groch remarks: "Man holds his destiny in his own hands. He is his own fairy god-parent.....Endowed by his brain with the biological gifts of possibility and choice, man,

therefore, inherits both the heavy burden of responsibility and freedom's sweeter offspring hope. If things do not turn out as he wishes, he will have no one to blame but himself. *Man is his own hope.*"

No one is handed his destiny on a platter. You must make your own destiny. Never place total reliance in anyone other than yourself when it comes to shaping your own destiny or guiding your own life or as Emerson said : "Nothing can bring you peace but yourself."

Don't ever let your strings go. Refuse to be manipulated by others. Don't be content to be regulated. Take charge of your own life. Be your own helmsman. Paddle your own canoe. Pull your own strings:

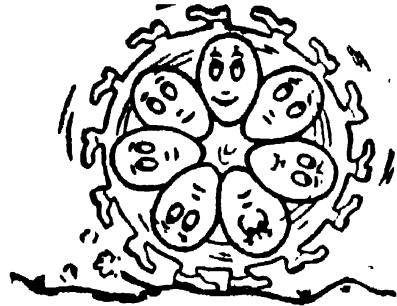
Life is a beautiful thing.....
As long as I hold the string...
I'd be silly so and so.....
If I should ever let it go.....

Police, Crime and Society

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that goes wrong. We should be fair to the guardians of law and order. Again, policemen have often to use third degree methods to extort confessions from hardened criminals and dacoits who would not otherwise reveal anything. For gathering foolproof evidence certain practices become necessary in accordance with the circumstances. It would be folly to treat dacoits and ruffians as gentlemen. So I think we should modernise the police and ensure full public co-operation to these guardians of law and order to enable them to perform their duty well. It is no use raising our hands in despair.

When Silence is Golden



We use and read various maxims without really getting beyond the surface. We take their meaning for granted. Speech is silver but silence golden is one such maxim. That it is full of golden wisdom seldom occurs to many of us. I was no exception. That is till recently. Now it has dawned on me that the practical wisdom contained in the banal adage has the potential of transforming our life.

The realization came when sometimes back on account of serious throat trouble, I was forced to keep my mouth shut most of the time. The constant pain and the resultant misery reduced my communication with my family to whispers and signs. While this situation saddened the family, I noticed that it had a positive side, too. Unnecessary words were cut to the minimum. Meaningful communication replaced senseless chattering. Along with this, words which resulted in sparks almost vanished. Our family life seemed more efficient and to the point.

We discovered that we grew closer and understood each other more and easily. And that too without resorting to the use of words. The only language we used was that of the eyes. What a thrilling thing! You raise your eyebrows and your wife knows what you are trying to convey. You lower them and she understands it too. The significance of silence had been lost in the sound and subterfuge of words in the past. Words, words, and words had deprived

us of a rich aspect of marriage. Silence enriched our relationship, adding a new dimension to mutual understanding.

Isn't it that spouses spoil their relationship through too much talking. Communication is good and necessary but too much of it and carried on through indiscriminate use of words produces undesirable results. It generates illwill, friction and misunderstandings which are sought to be remedied through harsher words.

Many would agree that on several occasions they had landed themselves in a soup for they could not leash their tongue at the right moment. They would also recall that on several occasions, they had averted an ugly situation from developing because they kept the deadly tongue in lock. A silence in time saves fights nine!

Many a marital tiff originates from spouses' desire to have the first, the second and the last word. The practical art of falling into silence enables you to have the quarter, the semi-final and the final word. You can beat a bad word with a worse one but you cannot beat silence except with more stoic silence.

Pushing yourself into the silence zone is not easy. It requires patience, self-control and a regular exercise in the art. But once you have made a beginning, you succeed. Arguments begin to disappear, grievances lose their sting and nasty words fail to provoke.

Silence in spoken language is important. No less important is silence in the written word. Once in a fit of anger, I wrote a foul letter to a friend. Somehow, I mislaid it. The mailing was delayed. When I found it and read it over, I was shocked. It would have been the silliest action of my life. Now, it is a practice that I do not mail anything written in a huff.

Silence is golden is not a mere platitude. It is a valuable tool in the art of living. It reduces carping criticism, veiled sarcasm, sneers, calculated complaints and scalding scolds. It may not turn bitterness into sweetness. But it does reduce bitterness.

It seldom occurs to us that much of our bitterness in human relationships results from pittle pattle of ordinary conversation. Words are used indiscriminately and without proper understanding.

A lot of our small talk is so senseless and unnecessary that it ought to be left unsaid. Too much remarks on others' action and character reveal a certain want of culture and refinement. Murdering reputations with our tongue, boasting of our achievements, real or imaginary, revealing our intimate secrets and throwing verbal fuel on marital ambers are the result of our failure to practice the art of silence. In other words, we do not think twice before we speak. Now, that is another commonplace adage which needs examination and practice!

MODEL PARAGRAPHS

Paragraph-writing is one of the compulsory questions in many of the higher-grade competitive examinations. Thoughts in certain well-known quotations are required to be developed into suitable paragraphs. Some examples are given hereunder.

Energy in a nation is like sap in a tree; it rises from bottom up.

(Woodrow Wilson, 1912)

A plant or a tree freshens up only when it is watered at the roots; nothing is gained by sprinkling water on the leaves or twigs. When the foundations of a house are ill-laid it must come down at the slight tremor, howsoever well-plastered or white-washed it may be. A nation is as prosperous as the commonalty of its people. During the last thirty years we in India may have constructed giantly dams and massive installations; our budget may run today into billions and trillions but if sixty per cent of our people live, as they do, below the poverty line, we are living in a state of unstable equilibrium, heavy at the top and hollow all below. The need of the hour is greater social justice, so that the fruits of freedom should reach down to the meanest of our countrymen. That was Gandhi's dream, the welfare of all citizens, thereby releasing the hidden energies of all. In his own way he had tried to split the atom.

—
Nothing is more important than a war on war.

(Pope Leo XIII 1810-1903)

The greatest curse that can be entailed on mankind is a state of war. All the atrocious crimes committed in years of peace, all that is spent in peace by the secret corruptions, or by the thoughtless extravagance of nations, are mere trifles compared

with the gigantic evils which stalk over this world in a state of war. A great war leaves every country with three armies—an army of cripples, an army of mourners and an army of thieves. The irony is that in spite of all this fighting it is still resorted to as a method of settling disputes. What we need is a complete break with the past. No more glorification of war, no deification of warriors and world conquerors—in fact history will have to be re-written. The war against war is going to be no holiday excursion or camping party. The military feelings are too deeply grounded to abdicate their place among our ideals until better substitutes are offered than the glory and shame that come to nations as well as individuals from the ups and downs of politics and the vicissitudes of trade.

Every new opinion at its starting is precisely in a minority of one.

—Carlyle

When Buddha after his Enlightenment began his crusade against the current ritualism and casteism even the five Bhikkhus who had clung to him deserted and the Master had to wander about all alone. But he plodded on, undeterred and unafraid, with his Inner light guiding him through the enveloping gloom. At long last the world listened to him and rallied round his banner. The truly great man goes ahead even though alone and friendless. He

is goaded on by the Light within him. When Copernicus declared, on the basis of his calculations that the earth moves round the sun, he was maligned and condemned as a heretic. So was Galileo. But there was no recanting despite the threats of the Inquisition. Darwin propounded his Theory of Evolution only to stir up a hornet's nest. The church denounced him and the man in the street would not countenance a theory which said that his ancestors were apes. Darwin knew that the storm would blow over and truth would prevail. And it did. Marx was hounded out of his country and spent several years in exile. He gave to the world a new Bible, the Bible of Communism. Today his theories, with some local variations, are being increasingly accepted by the world. The great man starts as a nucleus and goes on gathering to himself more and more electrons.

A book may be as great a thing as a battle.

It is said about Alexander that on his world conquest campaign he carried a copy of Homer's *Iliad*. The book not only inspired him, but also quite often guided him on battle-technique. Caliph Omar carried a copy of the Quran. It fortified his faith in difficult times. Shakespeare depicts Brutus as reading a book on the field of battle. Gandhi was the

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1. Hypocrisy is the Best Policy

A lover was writing to his beloved in the usual exuberant and effusive terms "I shall die without you; I can die for you. You are my idol, you are my temple where I shall worship till eternity." In the Postscript he wrote "I shall see you on Sunday evening provided it is not raining."

We are all hypocrites and do not know it. The world consists almost exclusively of people who are one sort and who behave like another sort. We are perpetually playing Dr Jekyll-and-Mr Hyde game and get so used to it that it ceases to be a game. It becomes our very nature.

Hypocrisy, it has been said, is the tribute that vice pays to virtue. The belief in the existence of God and cardinal virtues is fostered in us from our childhood. But the pleasures of life have an irresistible appeal for us. We make the best of both the worlds by paying lip-service to God and heart-service to the Devil.

*And thus I clothe my naked villainy
With old odd ends stolen out of holy writ
And seem a saint, when most I play the devil*

The morning begins with prayers in the temple, mosque or church and the debt to God is paid. The rest of the day is given to deceit, corruption, lies and falsehoods. Satan gets the lion's share of our attention.

Religion has been particularly the happy hunting-ground of hypocrisy. Outside the temple the following lines from the Gita are inscribed in bold letters:

Whoever offers Me with devotion, a leaf, a flower, a fruit or water, I accept that, the pious offering of the pure in heart.

In actual practice, however, the order of precedence is decided by the amount in the offertory box. All attention is given to the big donor; yonder woman who cannot afford more than a mite cannot find a place in this sun, though the sun of God shines on all alike, the rich and the poor.

Jesus Christ laid stress on two things: "Whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also." Second "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter into the Kingdom of God."

Now these two things, non-violence and non-possession, are exactly the things which his followers have thrown overboard down the centuries. War and Commerce have been the pillars of Western civilisation. How many wars have been fought in the name of Christ, the austere man whose heart overflowed with love even for the sinners.

In politics as in religion there is abundance of hypocrisy. The

politician is an acrobat. He keeps his balance by saying the opposite of what he does. To secure votes these acrobats will go to any length, make tall promises which they never intend to redeem. They advance politically only as they placate, appease, bribe, seduce, bamboozle, or otherwise manage to manipulate the demanding and threatening elements in their constituencies.

Hypocrites are everywhere. People pretending to wealth when they have not a six pence; assuming knowledge of which they are ignorant, shamming a culture they are far removed from, adopting opinions they do not hold. The fact is that it is easier to pretend to be what you are not than to hide what you really are; but he that can accomplish both has little to learn in hypocrisy.

The tribe of hypocrites is increasing at a fast pace. Snobbery, the twin-sister of hypocrisy is becoming the hall-mark of culture. The world is being made safe for hypocrisy.

He seemed

*For dignity composed and
high exploit*

*But all was false and hollow:
though his tongue*

*Dropped manna, and could
make the worse appear*

*The better reason, to perplex
and dash*

Maturest counsels.

2. Respect for Law

The happenings at Baghpur and Dabwali, reprehensible in themselves, may well be a symptom of the malady that is overtaking us. If the custodians of law and order choose to violate it, a moral crisis must be in the offing. If the salt loses its flavour, wherewith shall it be salted?

Plato in his Dialogues has recorded a very interesting incident about Socrates. The Master had been arrested on the trumped-up charge of misleading youth and sentenced to drink a cup of poison. A few well-wishers arranged for the escape of the Master but when the subject was broached to him he refused. He had always exhorted people to respect and obey the Laws of the Land and he would not violate them for a temporary gain. The great man was greater in his death.

We are a democracy, the largest democracy in the world. The essence of democracy is that we make our own laws, of course through our elected representatives. When once these laws are made and implemented, it is our bounden duty to follow them sincerely, scrupulously and without mental reservations. Law enjoins penalties for its violation but a sincere democrat obeys it not because of the penalty but because it is his own creation and he is morally committed to follow it in letter and in spirit.

Mahatma Gandhi was in prison. As a prisoner he was entitled to two interviews in a week with his relatives, but always in the presence of a jail official. Once Kasturba came for the interview. It had just started, when the jail official, out of deference, left the place. Gandhiji stopped talking. When the time was up and the official returned he was surprised to

learn that not a word had passed between Gandhiji and Ba during the interval. "I am a prisoner and as such must abide by the rules and regulations of the jail." The Mahatma rose to his full stature wherever he was.

The common man in India has yet a long way to go before he can call himself a respector of law. The country's plans go awry because we go all-out to undermine or torpedo them. Rationing has rarely been a success in our country because we flout all rules and regulations. Bogus cards, bloated figures, hoarding, selling in black-market, all these and many more malpractices have disfigured our social behaviour. While the honest and law-abiding citizen cannot get enough sugar for his morning tea, even the pettiest official can twirl his moustache and manage to get a bagful.

There is scarcity of cement. The Government says that the commodity is in short supply because of this or that reason. But the construction boom is here, there and everywhere, thanks to the black-market. Every businessman understands the slang of black and white, number 2 and all that.

The Government has published figures about the Income Tax arrears which run into hundreds of crores. For every one crore there must be ten which are dodged by the concealment of true income. That way the Government is being deprived of colossal revenue. The brunt naturally falls on the honest tax-payer who groans under the burden. Peter robs and Paul has to pay dearly for it.

These economic offences betray a general social malaise. It is difficult to believe that these could have escalated so fast if the official machinery had

not connived at it. Connivance may even amount to suggestion and co-operation.

Something is rotten in the State of Denmark. And the rot has stemmed from a growing disrespect for law. At one time it was the fear of God that kept the citizens within moral and social bounds. That fear has eroded, and there is nothing to take its place. We are wandering between two worlds, one dead, the other powerless to be born.

What we need is moral regeneration which will teach us a respect for law even if it means a little inconvenience to us. To respect the law is the true index of civilization.

MODEL PARAGRAPHS

(Contd. from page 106)

hero of many a battle (in his own way, of course). But the inspiration, the moral vigour and the technique came from such books as "Civil Disobedience" by Thoreau, "The Kingdom of God is Within You" by Tolstoy and "Unto this Last" by Ruskin. Battles like Marathon, Plassey, Waterloo and Stalingrad have changed the course of human history but some books have no less transformed nations and their influence has been more lasting: Plato's "Republic" has shaped human thinking on political and social institutions as nothing else has. The same may be said about Rousseau's "Social Contract", Darwin's "Origin of Species", Marx's "Capital" and Einstein's "Relativity". Books are greater than crowns, and empires. "If I were asked to choose, wrote Carlyle 'between the British Empire' and the 'works of Shakespeare', I would decidedly choose the latter."

Is Alcohol an Aphrodisiac?

Any material other than food which causes chemical change in the body, either when taken internally or when applied externally, is a drug. Depending on the character and dosage of drugs, they may be useful or harmful, pleasant or unpleasant.

Man harbours the belief that drugs are capable of any desired effect on the human body if only the right drug can be found. The most fondly desired effect is perennial youth coupled with inexhaustible sexual virility.

In this quest, man has not only amassed a store of unscientific information about certain drugs but also endowed them with imaginary, magical powers. The ancient Romans, for example, believed that the root of the orchid, called satyrium, was highly stimulating because when paired it acquired the shape of testicles. The imaginary similarity led them to name it after the organ.

The modern man is no exception. He continues the quest. Scientific information about drugs with dubious qualities has dispelled misconceptions. But man loves to hug illusions. One such illusion is that alcohol is a powerful aphrodisiac. It has, in fact, been responsible for a great deal of loss of potency as well as of virtue.

Misconceptions have risen, acquiring the form of general belief that alcohol is a stimulant. It is not. It is an anaesthetic which affects the higher nervous system first, removing inhibi-

tions, suspending judgement, lulling the fear of consequences.

Hidden aspects of the personality surface when the inhibitions imposed by the conscious mind are dulled by alcohol. That is why we see alcohol affecting different people differently. An extrovert acts more extrovertly, an introvert goes further into his shell. Some become terribly talkative, others glum. Some weep, others riot. Some highly amorous, others indifferent.

Alcohol does not stimulate sexual performance nor indeed any other. Contrarily under its dulling effect what's otherwise unacceptable, becomes an exciting adventure. Restraints go, prudence vanishes, and fear of exploits pushed to background.

The young and immature may find it useful as a pusher. Spouses sexually handicapped by a sense of guilt, neurotics burdened by excessive inhibitions, seek in the bottle and end to self-criticism. This is fraught with grave consequences. The subject may require large amounts of alcohol to quell his unquiet feelings which render him totally incapable for the sex act. Excessive drinking also results in malnutrition, another factor causing impotence or reduced potency. Dr Edward A. Strecker says, "It's this frightening loss that frequently brings the alcoholic to the psychiatrist."

Ancient authorities whom the layman quotes in his defence, have also spoken against it.

Plato has observed that no man or woman who wishes to beget children, should touch wine that night.

Ovid is on record: "Wine incites the feelings to lust, unless you take it in great quantities, and drenched with liquor, your senses become stupefied."

Plutarch said of Alexander the Great that he often drank enough in one night to keep him unconscious for the following two and that his habit made him "cold in love, but passionate and angry".

Havelock Ellis has said that alcohol increases desire but reduces ability to perform. He has also remarked that its effect is more pronounced on the fair sex. It simply means that women are, as a rule, more reserved and inhibited than men. Thus the removal of such restraints becomes more pronounced in them. But the fact cannot be overlooked that men or women are equally anaesthetised by alcohol. There comes a time when both are just too sleepy to be bothered or to resentful to be coaxed.

Dr Francis Rabelais wrote a satire in the 16th century which contains a telling comment on the subject. Paraphrased, it comes to this: excessive drinking brings upon the body a chillness in the blood, a slackening in the sinews and a dissipation of the generative seed.

FASCINATING FACTS

The Secret of Long Life

In the Soviet Union, some 14,000 people give their age between 100 and 104, another 400 go up to 109, and 600 claim to be over 120.

Is it possible anyway to live up to 120 or even 140? Most medical experts in the West are highly sceptical. Dr Edward Henderson, Vice President of the American Geriatric Society, says, "There may be people 140 years old, but I should like to examine some."

One British expert after half a century of intensive research, says that no human being can be proved to have lived for more than 113 years. Only a handful of supercentenarians have been able to produce irrefutable proof of their age by birth certificates.

A tranquil, unworried and unhurried life in highly favourable surroundings, does give some people and races a start in the life-stakes. An American scientist exploring the tiny Himalayan State of Hunza, east of the Khyber Pass, found an untroubled land where women of 80 looked as young as Western women of 40; where 90-year-old men became fathers and where defective teeth and eye troubles were unknown.

What helps most? A society without money, crime or disease? Or pure, invigorating mountain air and a diet of fresh fruit and vegetables and wholemeal bread?

But wherever you live, doctors say that the secret of long life is not environment or diet.

A West Germany biologist says that laziness robs people of longevity. They ride everywhere, scorn exercise, grow heavy and flabby and fall prey to disease of heart and arteries. Their premature ageing and death is made more certain by mental idleness.

He says, "If the brain is required to make a special effort, not only is its intellectual activity kept going until very old age, but it actually helps to prolong life.

Radar reveals the secret of an Empire

A radar system designed to spy on the planet Venus has unveiled one of the most profound mysteries of the ancient Mayan Indian civilization in Central America, according to U.S. space scientists.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration said tests of the new radar led archaeologists to the discovery of extensive irrigation canals hidden for more than 1,000 years beneath the dense rain forest in Guatemala and neighbouring Belize.

That, in turn, explained for the first time how the Mayans managed to feed an empire of between two and three million people in swampy jungles where crops are hard to grow.

The shallow canals, dug over the years leading to the peak of the Mayan civilization about 800 A.D., were apparently used to drain water from the swamps to make plots of dry land for growing crops.

The radar system—called SAR or Synthetic Aperture Radar—was developed for the NASA by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California. It was designed to penetrate the dense cloud cover of Venus and provide images of the planet's hidden surface.

Alcohol causes abnormal birth

Experiments by a team of Australian scientists have shown a strong link between alcohol consumption during pregnancy and birth abnormalities.

Researchers in the Australian Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation's division of human nutrition have found that pregnant ewes which consumed alcohol equivalent to one litre of white wine each day gave birth to underweight retarded lambs.

Mr Brian Potter, the leader of the team, said the results supported strongly the clinical reports of retarded brain development in the children of alcoholics.

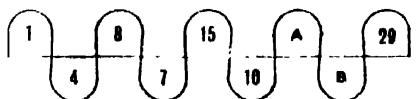
The researchers used 16 sheep with proved reproductive performance, which were induced to drink the equivalent of one litre of wine each day, before and during pregnancy. After five months the ewes were joined with rams which had taken no alcohol, and the results were compared with a similar group of pregnant ewes which had taken no alcohol.

Five of the alcoholic ewes failed to conceive and four miscarried or had still-born lambs.

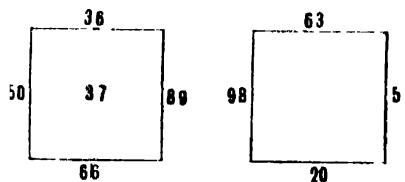
(Contd. on page 134)

Intelligence TEST

1. What are the values of A and B?



2. What number should go inside the vacant square?



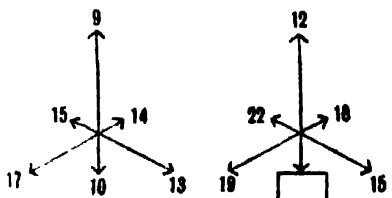
3. Insert the missing number.

$$525 \ (100) \ 325 \\ 428 \ () \ 228$$

4. Insert the missing number.

$$\begin{matrix} 8 & 10 & 6 & 12 \\ 15 & 7 & 5 & 17 \\ 25 & 2 & 8 & 19 \\ 19 & 3 & - & 18 \end{matrix}$$

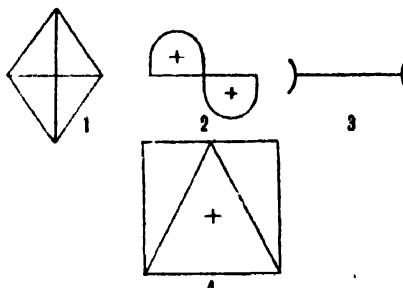
5. Put down the appropriate number in the box.



6. Find the missing number.

$$7 \ 15 \ 32 \ - \ 138 \ 281$$

7. Write the number of the odd man out.



8. Complete the series.

A D A E A G A I A M A —

9. Which is the odd man out?

- (a) Dollop (b) Clef (c) Crab
- (d) Condemn (e) Albino (f) Sink

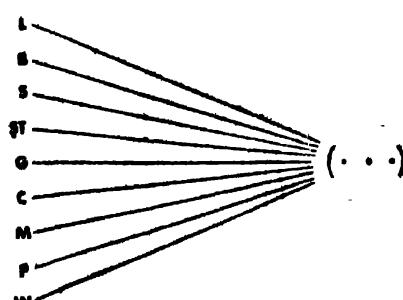
10. Fill in the last letter.

N Q L S J U —

11. Insert the word that means the same as the words outside the brackets.

- (a) Crow (. . . .) swindle
- (b) Disc (.....) achievement

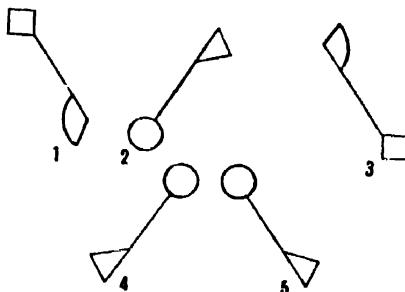
12. Put down a word in the brackets that can be prefixed by any of the letters on the left.



13. Insert the word that completes the first word and starts the second.

KER (. . . .) TAIN

14. Which of the five-numbered figures is the odd man out?



15. Insert the word in the brackets.

54 (FADE) 16

58 () 31

16. Find the odd man out.

- (a) Spain (b) Denmark (c) Germany (d) France (e) Italy (f) Finland

17. Find the words in the brackets.

S+(piece of furniture)=
(building)

18. Underline which of the words in the second row belongs with those in the first row.

RAT BIRD CART COLOUR
rain lily animal light paper

19. Insert the missing letter.

D R I G
T R I D
D R I —

20. Which is the odd word out?

- (a) INDIA
- (b) ICELAND
- (c) AFRICA
- (d) GREENLAND
- (e) EIRE
- (f) PORTUGAL
- (g) FRANCE

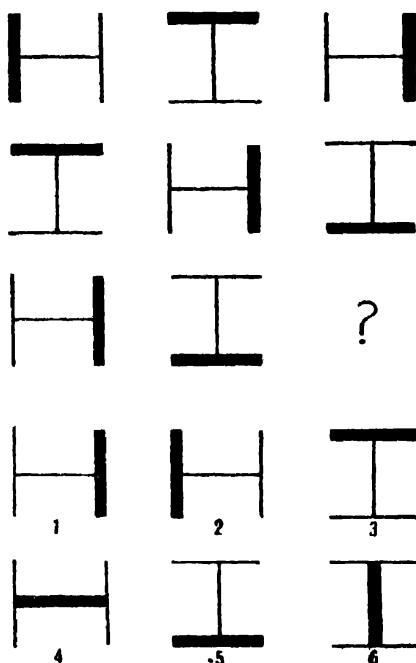
21. If a stud bull is larger than a tiger write 'No', otherwise write 'Yes'.

22. What are the following seas?

- (a) MAYLAA
- (b) CNBAEBRIA
- (c) SHIAUTNHOC
- (d) BGINRE

23. What city is half in Europe and half in Asia?

24. Which of the six numbered figures replaces the sign of interrogation?



Answers & Explanations

1. A = 22; B = 13. (The upper domes are a different series from the lower one. The upper is made by adding seven in each case, and the lower by adding three.)
2. 20. (Add numbers on the left and right of the square and subtract from this the sum of the numbers on top and bottom.)
3. 100. (Take the difference between the numbers outside the brackets and divide by two.)
4. 4. (The numbers in the third column are made by adding those in the first two and subtracting the one in the last.)
5. 6. (Add the figures at the end of long arrows, and subtract from this the figures at the ends of the short arrows.)
6. 67. (Double each number and add successively one, two, three, etc., $2 \times 32 = 64 + 3 = 67$.)
7. 3. (The third figure is the only one which has no parts enclosed by either curved or straight lines.)
8. O (The number of letters between A and each successive letter in the series is always a prime, going up in order from 2 through 3, 5, 7, 11 to 13. There are thirteen letters between A and O.)
9. (f). (Sink. In all the other words the last two letters are consecutive letters in the alphabet; not so in 'sink'.)
10. H. (The number of letters in the alphabet which lie between successive letters in the question are 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, and 12, and the direction alternates from forward to backward along the alphabet (i.e. from A to Z, and then from Z to A). Alternative explanation: Alternate letters go two steps down the alphabet and two steps up; the sequence N, L, J, leads to H as the next letter.)
11. (a) Rook. (A rook is kind of crow, and to rook is to swindle.)
- (b) Record. (A disc is a record, and a record is an achievement.)
12. ORE.
13. CHIEF.
14. 5. (There are two pairs of drawings, 1 and 3, and 2 and 4. These pairs are made up by turning one of them through an angle of 180 degrees. Figure 5 does not fit into this scheme.)
15. ACHE. (Take the letters corresponding to the numbers (i.e., A = 1, B = 2, etc.) in reverse order.)
16. (b). (Denmark is the only kingdom among these countries.)
17. Table and stable. (S + table = stable.)
18. Lily. (All these words can be prefixed by the word 'water'.)
19. B. (The letters in the three rows, read backwards, spell out the words gird, dirt, and bird.)
20. (g). (FRANCE contains only two vowels all the others have three each. Do not mix up the question with countries for the question relates to the odd WORD out.)
21. No.
22. (a) Malaya (b) Caribbean
(c) South China (d) Bering.
23. Istanbul.
24. 2. (The black line rotates clockwise through 90 degrees at each turn.)

Argumentative Questions ON CURRENT PROBLEMS

- Self-sufficiency in Arms ?
- China's latest Rebuff to India
- Do M.P.s deserve More Pay ?
- Confrontation or Cooperation ?

Self-sufficiency in Arms ?

Q. "India has been seeking self-sufficiency in armaments, but the goal is still not attainable. There is a political lobby that thwarts the progress on this front." Give reasons *For* and *Against* this view.

Ans. Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee, former External Affairs Minister and now Bharatiya Janata Party leader, said in a speech at Chandigarh on August 5 that there was a powerful "slush money" lobby in the country which was deliberately sabotaging the programme for developing new weapons to attain self-reliance in defence. According to him, there is an active officers' lobby, backed by leading politicians, who were always working for purchases of sophisticated military equipment from abroad. There is the other side of the picture also. Self-reliance in military equipment is admittedly a goal worth achieving in the national interest, but it is not easy to achieve, so fast and complex is the technology developed elsewhere and so staggering is the cost. Whether the indefinite delay in attaining the goal is the result of the efforts of a deliberate and planned lobby is a matter that is not easy to decide.

Arguments For the View

1. Mr Atal Behari Vaj-

payee is a responsible, objective politician who is not given to misleading statements in order to score a debating point. What he has lately been saying on the question of arms self-sufficiency need not be dismissed as political propaganda against the ruling party. He conceded that the anti-self-sufficiency lobby was active during the Janata rule also, and even that party could not attain the goal or make notable progress in that direction.

2. Every now and then the Government of India reiterates its policy of attaining self-sufficiency in arms, but far from reaching the goal or making substantial progress towards it, more and more orders are placed with the big countries for submarines, aircraft and other equipment. What is more, the agreements reached with one foreign manufacturer are often changed or repudiated by a new party in power in Delhi (as in the case of Jaguar planes). Thus there is little doubt that there is politics behind arms deals, and a group of officials must be behind the policy shifts. Without such a group, it would be impossible to switch over from one type of sophisticated equipment to another.

3. In almost every arms contract signed with the manu-

facturers in foreign countries there is a "kick-back" or "slush money" (commission paid to the customer by the manufacturer) and every time a deal is struck, some commission changes hands. This money, by no means small, is not accounted for in any written document and is regarded as a routine matter. Officials who are sent from Delhi to negotiate arms deals with foreign powers not only enjoy free foreign trips at the poor Indian taxpayer's expense but also pocket the commission. So their interest is to sign more and more arms contracts abroad, regardless of the setback to the nation's goal of arms self-sufficiency.

4. The story of the contracts for Jaguar aircraft (recently modified despite Britain's protest), the Harriers and submarines fully establishes the validity of this view. The Hawker Siddley Harrier aircraft is meant to be used by the naval air arm and is proposed to be stationed on the aircraft-carrier "Vikrant" as a replacement for the aged "Seahawks". In the arms deals India has recently made, the established Indian policy of acquiring a certain type of aircraft and simultaneously absorbing the production technology to avoid the spare parts problem has been

partially shelved. The frequent change of contracts means more delay in developing the requisite technology in the country, and this suits the anti-self-sufficiency lobby.

Arguments Against the View

1. India has not yet been able to achieve self-reliance even in respect of economic aid, and the goal of zero net aid, so proudly flaunted about five years ago, has been discarded, and now the effort every year is to secure more and more economic aid from foreign countries. Self-reliance in respect of arms is a far cry and we might as well drop the goal or postpone it indefinitely.

2. Indian leaders have admitted that in sophisticated technology and electronics this country is far behind other Powers. What is the point in trying to achieve self-sufficiency in arms when we lack the necessary technology for making the latest type of weapons? We should admit the stark realities and not blame officials of the Government of India for the delay in acquiring the capacity to make all the weapons we need.

3. It is true that hundreds of young scientists in India's defence laboratories are idle for lack of a whole-time occupation, but would it be worthwhile and economically feasible or advisable to put them on the manufacture of the latest military equipment when they are unaware of the latest techniques, do not have the infrastructure, nor the know-how of the latest military researches. Scores of money would go down the drain if in a vain bid for self-reliance we set up factories for making the latest types of aircraft or submarines. To quote only one instance, India announced in 1960 its intention to manufacture submarine, but there is no sign of such submarines even

two decades after the policy enunciation! The country does not have the capability nor the money to manufacture the latest military equipment; why seek what is not possible and practicable?

China's latest Rebuff to India

Q. "The sudden cancellation of Chinese Foreign Minister Huang Hua's proposed visit to Delhi is a major rebuff to India and a setback to the process of normalisation of relations between the two countries." Do you support this view? Give reasons For and Against it.

Ans. Much to the Government of India's surprise, the Chinese authorities cancelled on August 6, 1980, Foreign Minister Huang Hua's visit to Delhi, reportedly fixed for October, to continue the talks for normalisation of relations between the two countries. The explanation offered is that Mr Hua has prior commitments and that his schedule for the rest of the year is "very full" owing to internal and external commitments. All this is, of course, a mere pretence. The real reason lies elsewhere. China's ways have always been inscrutable and mysterious; while professing and reaffirming its desire to re-establish friendly relations with India, it has at times acted in a manner which indicates lack of trust in, if not positive hostility towards, India. Only a few weeks earlier, Peking sources had expressed their keenness to send Mr Hua to Delhi to promote cordiality with this country. It is widely believed that the major cause of the decision to call off the visit is India's recent recognition of the Kampuchea regime which China has interpreted as a hostile gesture.

Arguments For the View

1. There is no doubt that the cancellation of Mr Hua's

visit is meant as a rebuff to Delhi. Mr Hua's so-called "commitments" is a mere smoke-screen in the building up of which the Chinese are experts. Their actions, as history shows, are generally indirect and their methods are subtle but well-calculated. Surely, they could not have openly declared that the Foreign Minister's visit was being cancelled because of the Kampuchea's decision.

2. It has also to be borne in mind that, despite all the "gestures" from Peking to India over the past few years, no concrete results have emerged and the deadlock in Indo-Chinese relations remains unresolved. The border dispute has not been solved, nor has any progress been made in that regard. Until that basic and complex issue is resolved, it is futile to hope for mutual cordiality. Each country sticks to its declared position; so there is no basis for a settlement.

3. To all intents and purposes, the Chinese policy, as enunciated on October 9, 1963, that India "should discard all useless pretexts and subterfuges and accept the Chinese proposal that both sides should accept the Colombo proposals in principle as a basis for the immediate holding of direct negotiations stands. It may be recalled that after a few days, in the third week of October, 1963, China bemoaned India's "extraordinarily rigid attitude and totally unreasonable position" and even accused it of "blackmail and swindle!"

4. While expressing hopes of establishing cordial relations with India, Chinese leaders also accuse this country of expecting too much. For instance, on July 27, 1980, China claimed that a "historic document" discovered recently disproved India's stand that the Simla Agreement of 1971 confirmed

the McMahon Line as the traditional Sino-Indian boundary in the eastern sector. The British Government, a Peking leader said, had later prepared a "fake document" saying that the boundary had been settled at the Simla conference. According to the McMahon Line, India claimed about 90,000 sq. km. of Chinese territory, apart from another 40,000 sq. km. in the western part (in Aksai Chin). China has declared that if India insists on both claims, the dispute cannot be settled.

Arguments Against the View

1. For some of the so-called rebuffs to India in the process of normalisation of relations between the two countries the Chinese hold this country responsible. For instance, the sudden recognition of Heng Samrin's Kampuchea regime by India has been interpreted as an anti-Chinese and pro-Soviet gesture. If this decision had not been announced, perhaps the Huang Hua visit might not have been cancelled. In any case, the Delhi decision was ill-timed and could have been delayed.

2. In the third week of July two senior Chinese leaders, Mr Deng Xiaoping, Vice-Premier, and Mr Wang Bingnan, Chairman of China's Foreign Cultural Relations Organisation, granted interviews to the editor of an Indian defence journal "Vikrant". This was a gesture of conciliation and indicated Beijing's desire to start a dialogue with India to solve the outstanding disputes. The very fact of the grant of interviews to an Indian journalist is considered significant.

3. Recently, Chinese leaders have emphasised that the Kashmir issue was a bilateral one and it was for India and Pakistan to solve it; China was not backing Pakistan on the issue. This was another gesture of goodwill to India.

4. Even after the Afghanistan crisis created by the Soviet occupation of Kabul, China has played its anti-Soviet stand in a low key and has not denounced India's pro-Soviet policy, in recognition of Delhi's crucial position. This fact needs due appreciation.

5. The cordiality expressed by the Chinese chairman, Mr Hua Guo-feng, during the talks held in Belgrade where Mrs Gandhi had gone for Marshal Tito's funeral, should not be disregarded. It was the first meeting between the heads of government of India and China since the 1962 India-China war. China even complemented India on her position as a leader of the non-aligned movement. If India ignores or spurns the olive branch offered by China, it will have much to lose because a hostile China would pose a major danger to this country's national security and territorial integrity.

Do M.P.s deserve More Pay?

Q. "Our M.P.s are already receiving good salaries and allowances, and do not deserve to be paid more for the services they render." Give arguments For and Against this view.

Ans. During the monsoon session of Parliament sustained attempts have been made by groups of M.P.s to sanction for themselves higher salaries and allowances. The demand was naturally almost unanimous and a bill for sanctioning higher emoluments was almost on the point of being drafted when Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, put her foot down on the proposal and, as a result of her disapproval, the proposal fell through, or rather it has been postponed. At a meeting of the Congress (I) Parliamentary Party on August 6 Mrs Gandhi said she realised the "hardships" facing M.P.s, but the present was not the time for sanction-

ing more pay for themselves. The people were suffering heavily on account of high prices, and if the salaries of M.P.s and the perks they enjoyed were raised and increased, it would have adverse public reactions. It is significant that the initiative in this regard was taken by Congress (I) M.P.s and over 300 members including the Leftists (who always talk of the poor, famished masses) signed the memorandum seeking higher salaries.

Arguments For the View (Against higher salaries)

1. Indian Members of Parliament are already being paid well. Their monthly salary is Rs. 500, plus secretarial allowance, virtually free residence, telephone, free travel, a daily allowance of Rs. 51 (when Parliament is in session) and free travel up to Delhi and back for each M.P.'s wife and a personal servant or aide, besides other facilities, the total value of which is difficult to assess. Each M.P. costs the country several thousand rupees a month.

2. Indian M.P.s should not compare their emoluments with those being paid to British M.P.s. The standards differ between the two countries. India is a poor country, and legislators' salaries and allowances should correspond to the economic standards prevailing in the country as a whole.

3. M.P.s are representatives of the people and should give top priority to public welfare and not to become a privileged class. They should serve the country and should remember that several schemes for social and economic uplift of the masses and other projects have to be held up because of financial stringency. If they vote higher salaries for themselves because they are the sovereign body and their decisions are not legally questionable, it would be

unfair use of the wide power they command. It would also indicate a callousness towards the plight of the masses who live in sub-human conditions. They were told recently that 30·6 crores of people in the country were still living below the poverty line.

4. The extent of the legislators' callousness towards the plight of the poor can be imagined from the fact that they have straightaway asked for a 100 per cent increase in pay (from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,000), while in the cases of Government and other employees and workers the increase in D.A. is only a small percentage of what they are already being paid. Moreover, Parliament meets for about 125 days in a year.

5. Besides the pay, every M.P. who serves for a full term of five years also gets a pension; nowhere else does a person become entitled to a pension by serving as a member of a body for only five years. And this pension is in addition to other incomes which almost all M.P.s have, through legal practice, business and industry. What is more, the M.P.s have also been demanding plots of land at nominal cost. The M.P.s' own contribution to the national exchequer is only a fraction of what they are paid at public cost. Some of them make extra money by sub-letting a part of their official accommodation in Delhi! Do their actions conform to the Gandhian standards they propagate?

Arguments Against the View

1. The prices of goods and commodities have risen so sharply in recent years that the allowance of Rs. 500 being paid to them hardly covers the loss of income they incur by remaining on duty in Delhi to attend Parliament sessions which are very frequent and prolonged. Since they cannot attend regularly to their practice or busi-

ness at home, they must in all fairness be compensated adequately.

2. Only a few M.P.s are rich and belong to prosperous business or landlords' families. The majority of them are men of ordinary means or middle class people who have to spend lakhs of rupees to get elected. The party to which they belong spends only a part of the high election expenditure, and elections are becoming a very costly business because of the high prices of petrol, and price increases all round. If the M.P.s are not paid well, they would be left impoverished after each election. The salary and daily allowances they get are, in fact, poor compensation to them and seldom amount to the money they spend in elections.

3. Each M.P. has to accommodate and entertain many visitors from his constituency in Delhi; in fact, every M.P.'s flat in the Capital is always full of his constituents and other guests who expect that they would be well looked after. All this expenditure has to be met by M.P.s themselves.

4. In fact, the reason why people on the Benches of the Supreme Court and the High Courts and members of the legislatures in this country are not all of a high standard is that public service is poorly paid. Lawyers having a good practice can earn much more by practice than by becoming a Judge or an M.P., and these people are human beings after all; they are not saints and they do require adequate funds to lead a good life and maintain a certain standard. Adequate salary is an incentive for whole-hearted service to one's constituency and the country; otherwise, these spokesmen will always keep thinking of ways to supplement their incomes to feed themselves and their families.

5. The emoluments paid to M.P.s must have some relevance to their high status and responsibility, and these must also take into account the soaring inflation which affects them and their dependents as much as anybody else. Why should the country expect that these people, who are expected to watch the conduct of highly paid officials in the bureaucracy, among others, must deny themselves even a decent living? The salaries of top civil servants and managers of public sector corporations have risen substantially, but the M.P.s' salaries have remained unchanged since 1978. The inflation rate now is nearing 30 per cent annually. How can we expect the M.P.s to play a dynamic and effective role if they are economically in difficulties and hard-pressed for money?

Confrontation or Cooperation?

Q. "Recent trends indicate that the decades-old confrontation between the North and the South has now given way to co-operation." Give reasons *For* and *Against* this view.

Ans. Until the early seventies there was a running debate verging on a regular confrontation between the prosperous North (the industrialised and rich countries of the West) and the developing South (the under-developed and developing regions of the East and the Southern hemisphere). Some leaders and analysts claim that there has been a dramatic change in attitudes and that the prospects of co-operation and active assistance by one group to the other have brightened, and that already the path to a smooth transition has been built through the pleadings and sagacity of certain statesmen and the qualitatively superior political leaders. On the other hand, some people point out that the

impression is misleading and that the disparities and imbalances continue with as much implicit injustice as before. The issue needs a careful and impartial study to reach a realistic and acceptable conclusion.

Arguments For the View

1. The time when the Big Powers, particularly the U.S.A. which has acted as the leading spokesman of the rich, used to resist all demands by the Third World for a more equitable distribution of the world's riches and industrial technology and capacity has passed. It was just a politically motivated phase in international relations. Now, realism has dawned and the path of confrontation is deemed as suicidal to both the prosperous and the poor. The voices of moderation have lately gained strength.

2. The recent international economic reforms have benefited the North and the South alike. A new pattern is being evolved for mutual gain, following the recognition that the old balance of power has changed and new alignments have emerged which cut across the old North-South divisions. The sterile stand-off which characterised the 1960s has now been abandoned by stages. The decade of empty rhetoric has passed.

3. The first signs of the new reality were noticeable in 1975 when the U.S. Secretary of State called for an end to confrontation and proposed several new initiatives: a scheme to stabilise several countries' export earnings which the under-developed nations had been demanding to make up the shortfalls in their revenues and to secure access to permanent markets; another plan to exchange technological information, and also plans to develop additional and alternative energy sources to meet the oil crisis which had

affected the poor nations badly and crippled their economies.

4. Further evidence of the transformed outlook came through the international tin and coffee agreements, 1976; the liberalisation of the Compensatory Financing facility of the International Monetary Fund which helped to offset the balance of payments gaps; and the wide-ranging, often fruitful discussions held in the Conference on International Economic Co-operation.

5. There is also the realisation of the growing importance of developing countries for U.S. security and foreign policy interests to pursue their global strategy. The increasingly important role being played by developing countries has prompted the process of change. The Big Powers have been wooing the Third World (on a selective basis) to enlarge their sphere of influence by concessions, pacts, and trade deals.

Arguments Against the View

1. The assessment that a change has come about is superficial; the idea is deliberately fostered to achieve political gains. The realities are still the same. This is shown by the data compiled by the Willy Brandt Commission on North-South relations. One man's problems, says Mr Willy Brandt, are another man's bonanza. He has also pointed out that while the richer groups are increasingly vocal, the poor and the illiterate are usually and conveniently silent.

2. Here are some distressing facts which have not been changed by all the talk of "co-operation" instead of a confrontation. One American still uses as much energy as 9 Mexicans or Cubans, 16 Chinese, 109 Sri Lankans, 438 Muslims and 107 Nepalese. Over 12 million children under five years of age

died of starvation in 1978—the Year of the Child—three years after the change to "co-operation" was claimed by the U.S.A.

3. Convincing evidence of the continued callousness of the giant Powers to the crying needs of the poor masses around the globe comes through the ever-increasing military expenditure. The cost of one modern tank (one million dollars) could help improve the storage facilities for one lakh tonnes of rice, or provide 1,000 class-rooms for 30,000 children. The price of one Jet fighter (20 million dollars) could establish 40,000 village dispensaries in the Third world.

4. The purely business motives and also the subtle motive encouraging impoverishment of the poor regions is also evident from the encouragement of the arms race in the Third world. The U.S.A. plays one poor country against the other, obligingly sells sophisticated weapons to it and continually promotes sales of military hardware everywhere. This intensifies the disparities and betrays the real intentions of the rich nations.

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General Knowledge Test

Q. Name the following:

(i) India's High Commissioner to Canada; (ii) President of the International Olympic Committee; (iii) Prime Minister of Japan; (iv) Prime Minister of Iran; (v) Chief Commissioner of the Union Territory of Chandigarh; (vi) Creator of the character Sherlock Holmes, the world's most famous detective; (vii) India's High Commissioner in London; (viii) President of Botswana who died on July 13 last; (ix) Chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation; (x) the Shah of Iran who died on July 27 last.

Ans. (i) Gurdial Singh Dhillon; (ii) Juan Antonio Samaranch (of Spain); (iii) Zenko Suzuki; (iv) Mohammad Ali Rajai; (v) Bhupinder Singh Sarao; (vi) Sir Arthur Conan Doyle; (vii) Dr Sayid Muhammad; (viii) Sir Seretse Khama; (ix) Satish Dhawan; (x) Mohammed Reza Pahlavi.

Q. (i) Who is recipient of the 15th Jawaharlal Nehru Award for "International Understanding"? (ii) Who won the Nobel Peace Prize for 1979? (iii) Who won the 1979 Nobel Prize in Literature? To which country does he belong? (iv) Which film in Hindi won the "Best National Feature Film Award for 1979"? Name the producer of this film.

(v) Who is Laldenga? Why was he in the news recently?

Ans. (i) Nelson R. Mandela; (ii) Mother Teresa (*She is also recipient of Bharat Ratna award for 1980*); (iii) Odysseus Elytis; Greece. (iv) Shodh; Sitakant Misra. (v) He is leader of the out-lawed Mizo National Front. He was in the news recently when Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi ordered withdrawal of all criminal conspiracy cases pending against him in the Delhi courts, in an apparent move by the Government to find a permanent political solution to the 15-year-old Mizo rebellion.

Q. Write a brief life-sketch (including achievements) of each of the following important figures in Indian history:—

(a) Kanishka-I; (b) Sankaracharya; (c) Krishnadeva Raya; (d) Tulsidas; (e) Todar Mall; (f) Guru Gobind Singh.

Ans. (a) **Kanishka-I:** (120-162 A.D.) Kanishka was one of the greatest kings of ancient India. He was a great warrior, a great empire-builder and the only ruler of India who had his territories even in Central Asia beyond the Pamirs. He was a tolerant king and a great patron of art and learning.

He ruled over the northern

part of the Indian sub-continent, Afghanistan and possibly regions north of Kashmir. His kingdom covered an area extending from Bukhara in the west to at least Patna in the east and from the Pamirs in the north to Central India in the south. His capital was Purushapura (Peshawar). In his later life, he became a patron of Buddhism and spent vast sums in the construction of Buddhist monuments. It is believed that he convened the fourth Buddhist Council at Jullundur (Punjab) under the presidency of his teacher Vasumitra.

(b) **Sankaracharya:** (788-820 A.D.) was born in Kaladi (Travancore) in what is now Kerala State. He had an in-born wish to be a *sanyasin* and when he grew young, he dedicated his life to philosophy and very early acquired a reputation as a formidable opponent in debate. He became a great scholar and philosopher and a leading exponent of Advaita Vedanta (nondualism). He wrote commentaries on the Bhagwad Gita, Upanishads and the Brahma Sutra. The goal of his philosophy is to be one with God, to rise above illusive separateness of self and become part of the great ocean of being.

During the course of his wanderings through the length

and breadth of the country, he championed Brahmin orthodoxy and gave his unmitigated opposition to the Buddhist credo. To propagate his teachings, he established four great *maths* (monasteries), one each at Badrinath in the Himalayas, Puri in the east, Dvaraka in the west, and Sringeri in the south in Mysore (Karnataka). Sankara died when he was only 32.

(c) **Krishnadeva Raya:** (1509-29) was the greatest king of the Tuluva dynasty and famous king of the most magnificent Hindu State of Vijaynagar. He was a very learned man, capable ruler and a great warrior. The Portuguese traveller Paes described him as the "most learned and perfect king that could possibly be". The mighty Hindu empire of Vijaynagar, founded on the ruins of Chola power, reached its great extent under Krishnadeva Raya. He reduced the *rajas* of Orissa to submission and overran the territory of Bijapur, one of the off-shoots of the Bahmani Muslim kingdom. He is known as the last great Hindu ruler of southern India.

(d) **Tulsidas :** (1527-1623) Tulsidas, a native of Oudh was born at Rajapur, Uttar Pradesh, and lived most of his adult life at Varanasi (Banaras). He was one of the greatest Hindu poets in the days of Akbar. His principal work, the *Ramcharitmanas* ("The Holy Lake of the Acts of Rama") written in Avadhi, an eastern Hindi dialect, is the greatest achievement of mediaeval Hindu literature. It has exercised an abiding influence on Hindu culture.

(e) **Todar Mall:** also known as Raja Todar Mall, was one of the *nau-ratans* (nine gems) in the Court of Akbar. He was the ablest and the most upright of the great imperialist officers. He was also a great humourist. He is well known for the re-organisation of financial and revenue systems. His reputa-

tion as a general was no less. He played a great part in the fighting in Gujarat and Bengal. He was at the same time headstrong and vindictive. Akbar, sometimes, did not like his independence of mind, vanity and bigoted adherence to Hinduism. (*Todar Mall had refused to accept Din-i-Ilahi, the new religion promulgated by Akbar*). He died in 1589.

(f) **Guru Gobind Singh:** (1666-1708) was the tenth and the last Guru of the Sikhs. He was the real founder of the Sikh power whose major part of life was spent in fighting the *Mughals*. He initiated the *Khalsa* ("pure") whom he described as "the chosen men of God to work for the victory of God".

He lost all his four sons during his lifetime. He declared the *Granth Saheb*, of which he produced the final edition, as the immortal Guru of the Sikhs. Guru Gobind Singh was assassinated on October 7, 1708, while he was in Nanded in Hyderabad State.

Q. Give the nationalities of and the reasons why the following persons are famous:

(i) Michaelangelo; (ii) Christopher Columbus; (iii) Robespierre; (iv) Adam Smith; (v) William Caxton.

A n s . (i) Michaelangelo: Italian. He was a renowned artist, painter, sculptor, architect and poet—an all-round genius.

(ii) Christopher Columbus: Italian. He was a famous navigator who discovered America in 1492.

(iii) Robespierre: French. He was leader of the Jacobian party who took active part in the French Revolution.

(iv) Adam Smith: British. He is known as the father of the science of political economy. He is author of the famous book *Wealth of Nations*.

(v) **William Caxton:** British. He is known as inventor of printing press.

Q. Fill in the gaps:

(i) The first President of the United States was—.

(ii) The Russian Revolution took place in the year—.

(iii) The Headquarters of the U.N.O. is in the city of—.

(iv) The Magna Carta was signed in the year—.

(v) The first President of the Indian Republic was—.

(vi) Ahalyabai belonged to —dynasty.

(vii) The President of the United States of America who was assassinated during his term of office in 1963 was—.

(viii) The two broad divisions of Buddhism are—.

(ix) Humayun ruled during the—century A.D.

(x) The Kushan dynasty in India started with—in—century A.D.

Ans. (i) George Washington; (ii) 1917; (iii) New York; (iv) 1215 A.D.; (v) Dr Rajendra Prasad; (vi) Holkar; (vii) John F. Kennedy; (viii) Mahayana and Hinayana; (ix) 16th; (x) Kanishka; 2nd.

Q. Who are the authors of the following characters?

(i) Shylock; (ii) Oliver Twist; (iii) Long John Silver; (iv) Tess; (v) Sancho Panza; (vi) Anna Karenina; (vii) Dr Zhivago; (viii) Jeeves; (ix) Hercule Poirot; (x) James Bond.

Ans. (i) Shakespeare; (ii) Charles Dickens; (iii) R.L. Stevenson; (iv) Thomas Hardy; (v) Cervantes Saavedra; (vi) Leo Tolstoy; (vii) Boris Pasternak; (viii) P.G. Wodehouse; (ix) Agatha Christie; (x) Ian Fleming.

Q. With which sports and games are the following persons associated and to which countries do they belong?

(i) Yannick Noah; (ii) Bjorn Borg; (iii) Asif Iqbal; (iv) S. Venkataraghavan; (v) Miruts Yifter; (vi) Gerd Wessing; (vii) Rudy Hartano; (viii) Bobby Fischer; (ix) Evonne Goolagong; (x) Allan Wells.

Ans. (i) Tennis—France; (ii) Tennis—Sweden; (iii) Cricket—Pakistan; (iv) Cricket—India; (v) Track and Field—Ethiopia. (He won a gold double each in the 5,000 and 10,000 metres in Moscow Olympic Games). (vi) Track and Field (*high jump*); East Germany. (He cleared 2.36 metres in Moscow Olympics and created a new world record). (vii) Badminton—Indonesia; (viii) Chess—U.S.A.; (ix) Tennis—Australia; (x) Track and Field; U.K. (*He became the fastest man in the Moscow Olympics winning a gold medal in 100 metres in 10.25 seconds.*)

Q. What constitutes the natural boundary between:

(i) India and China; (ii) Britain and France; (iii) France and Spain.

Ans. (i) The Himalayas; (ii) The English Channel; (iii) The Pyrenees Mountains.

Q. In which States or Union Territories of India are the following located?

(i) Sriharikota; (ii) Sindri; (iii) Visakhapatnam; (iv) Port Blair; (v) Durgapur; (vi) Khajuraho; (vii) Dilwara Temples; (viii) Ellora and Ajanta; (ix) Fatehpur Sikri; (x) Golden Temple.

Ans. (i) Andhra Pradesh; (ii) Bihar; (iii) Andhra Pradesh; (iv) Andaman and Nicobar Islands; (v) West Bengal; (vi) Madhya Pradesh; (vii) Rajasthan; (viii) Maharashtra; (ix) Uttar Pradesh; (x) Punjab.

Q. What type of climate produces: (i) hot, wet forests; and (ii) grasslands?

Ans. (i) The Equatorial type climate, in which the temperature remains high all the

year round but does not vary much, produces hot, wet forests.

(ii) The Tropical type climate produces grasslands which are found on either side of the equatorial belt where the rainfall usually occurs soon after the sun has been shining vertically while the dry season occurs in the colder part of the year.

Q. What is a Neap tide?

Ans. **Neap Tide:** When the tides are at the lowest height, these are called Neap Tides. This phenomenon occurs midway between the new and full moon when the sun and the moon are at right angles as to their direction from the earth.

Q. In which State/States in India are the following found?

(i) diamond; (ii) zinc ore; (iii) lignite; (iv) gold; and (v) monazite.

Ans. (i) Madhya Pradesh; (ii) Rajasthan; (iii) Tamil Nadu; (iv) Karnataka; (v) Kerala.

Q. Mention any six sources of energy available in the world today.

Ans. (1) Petroleum (crude); (2) coal; (3) hydro-electric; (4) nuclear; (5) solar; (6) geothermal.

Q. Mention the location of at least six oil refineries in India.

Ans. **Oil Refineries:** (1) Barauni (Bihar); (2) Nunamati (Assam); (3) Koyali (Gujarat); (4) Cochin (Kerala); (5) Trombay (Maharashtra); (6) Mathura (U.P.).

Q. What do the following abbreviations stand for?—

(i) I.S.R.O.; (ii) I.T.D.C.; (iii) N.A.S.A.; (iv) N.C.S.T.; (v) O.A.S.

Ans. (i) Indian Space Research Organisation; (ii) India Tourism Development Corporation; (iii) National Aeronautics and Space Administration (of U.S.A.); (iv) National Committee on Science and Technology; (v) Organisation of American States.

Q. Write short notes on the following:

(i) Frog; (ii) Migratory birds.

Ans. (i) **Frog:** The frog begins life as a tiny tadpole which is superficially like a greenish fish minus the tail-fin. It feeds chiefly on plant matter and breathes by gills. Within two months to three years the tadpole becomes a frog. During this period of change, it develops lungs and loses its tail. Limbs appear and the mouth gradually becomes frog-like. Adults eat mainly insects, snails and crayfish and are in turn eaten up by birds, snakes and mammals. Frogs are nocturnal creatures and in the tropics, are active during most of the year. The female is almost invariably larger than the male.

(ii) **Migratory birds:** Generally in winter every year millions of birds leave the places where they were born and bred and migrate to other areas. When the winter is over, they return to their original breeding grounds. Although man has known of this phenomenon for thousands of years, yet scientific studies of migratory birds began only in the beginning of the 20th century. Since then ornithologists have developed techniques like ringing and banding for identifying and studying individual birds. They have found that birds can be divided mainly into four groups viz., (1) permanent residents, (2) summer visitors, (3) winter visitors, and (4) birds of passage. All these groups have varying characteristics but the migratory birds have one thing in common—they follow well-established routes and their movements are precisely timed.

Objective-Type Tests

GENERAL STUDIES

The latest pattern of written papers in the competitive examinations for recruitment in Banking, Civil and Defence Services is based on Objective-Type Tests.

Answers are given at the end of this feature. Look to the answers only after you have yourself solved all the questions.

Work as fast and as carefully as you can.

Tick-mark the correct choice.
More than one 'choice' can be correct.

1. The author of the book "A Bend in the River" is:
(a) V.S. Naipal
(b) Nirad C. Choudhury
(c) Mulkh Raj Anand

2. Which of the following countries won a gold medal in women's hockey in the Moscow Olympics:
(a) India
(b) U.S.S.R.
(c) Zimbabwe
(d) Czechoslovakia

3. Which of the following countries won a gold medal in Football in the Moscow Olympics?
(a) U.S.S.R.
(b) East Germany
(c) Czechoslovakia
(d) Bulgaria

4. Inflation in 1979-80, in terms of the wholesale price index was:
(a) 20.5%
(b) 21.7%
(c) 27.5

5. The new five-year plan covering the period 1980-81 to 1984-85 aims at a growth rate of:
(a) 3%
(b) 4%
(c) 5.5%

6. Which Indian State has recently announced scrapping of total prohibition?
(a) Maharashtra
(b) Tamil Nadu
(c) Bihar
(d) Punjab

7. The birth centenary of Munshi Prem Chand was celebrated on:
(a) July 31, 1980
(b) August 1, 1980
(c) August 15, 1980

8. Which newly-independent country has become the 153rd member of the U.N.O.?
(a) Dominica
(b) Solomon Islands
(c) Zimbabwe
(d) Seychelles

9. The *Chakra*, dark blue in colour, superimposed on the middle white strip of the National Flag, has:
(a) 12 spokes
(b) 18 spokes
(c) 24 spokes

10. The national animal of India is:
(a) Lion
(b) Tiger
(c) Elephant

11. The last month of the year according to the National Calendar is:
(a) Chaitra
(b) Baisakh
(c) Phalgun

12. Which of the following Indian languages do not have the Dravidian origin:
(a) Telugu
(b) Marathi
(c) Malayalam
(d) Kannada
(e) Oriya

13. Sikkim was integrated with India as the 22nd State of the Union in 1975 by the Constitution:
(a) 32nd Amendment Act
(b) 36th Amendment Act
(c) 39th Amendment Act

14. Ramakrishna Mission was founded by:
(a) Ramakrishna Paramhansa
(b) Swami Ram Tirath
(c) Swami Vivekananda

15. Pulakesin II was the most powerful ruler of:
(a) Chalukya dynasty
(b) Chola dynasty
(c) Sunga dynasty

16. Surat Congress is known for:
(a) split between Mahatma Gandhi and Subhash Chandra Bose
(b) split between the moderates and the extremists
(c) split between Nehru and Sardar Patel

17. The headquarters of the U.N. International Atomic

Energy Agency (IAEA) is at:

- (a) Vienna (Austria)
- (b) Washington (USA)
- (c) Montreal (Canada)

18. One of the objects of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) is:

- (a) to form a strong union of the workers of the world
- (b) to organise demonstrations against the capitalists throughout the world
- (c) to promote social and economic stability

19. In the U.N.O., a resolution is vetoed if:

- (a) one of the five permanent members of the Security Council cast a negative vote
- (b) if two of the five permanent members of the Security Council cast negative votes
- (c) If three of the five permanent members of the Security Council cast negative votes

20. The U.N. Security Council consists of:

- (a) 5 members
- (b) 10 members
- (c) 15 members

21. Earthquakes are caused by:

- (a) sudden commotion in the planetary system
- (b) high velocity winds accompanied by thunder storm
- (c) solar flares in the Sun
- (d) volcanic eruptions

22. The contour lines on a map showing equal amount of sunshine are called:

- (a) Isohyets
- (b) Isohel
- (c) Isobars

23. Black Pagoda is in:

- (a) Bangkok
- (b) Kuala Lumpur

(c) Pnom Penh

(d) Konark

24. Cheena Kesava, the ancient sculptured temple, is in:

- (a) Karnataka
- (b) Kerala
- (c) Maharashtra

25. The biggest aluminium producer in the world is:

- (a) U.S.A.
- (b) U.S.S.R.
- (c) Iran
- (d) India

26. Which of the following is a great marshy and useless tract lying north-west of the Gujarat region:

- (a) Sunderbans
- (b) Malwa Plateau
- (c) Rann of Kutch
- (d) Chhota Nagpur

27. Korba in Madhya Pradesh is known for:

- (a) aluminium industry
- (b) copper
- (c) lignite

28. Zenith means:

- (a) attaining high position by an ordinary man
- (b) astronomical name of North Pole
- (c) a point on the celestial sphere overhead an observer

29. The "Ocean of Storms" is the name given to:

- (a) Atlantic Ocean
- (b) Pacific Ocean
- (c) Aegean Sea
- (d) a waterless area on Moon's surface

30. The mean distance of the moon from the earth (in kilometres) is:

- (a) 3,84,397
- (b) 2,40,250
- (c) 4,24,500

31. The moon's diameter is roughly:

- (a) one fifth that of the earth
- (b) one fourth that of the earth

(c) one sixth that of the earth

32. Barley requires:

- (a) cool climate
- (b) moist climate
- (c) hot climate

33. Largest area under cultivation for cotton in the world is in:

- (a) India
- (b) U.S.A.
- (c) Egypt
- (d) China

34. Which State in India is the largest producer of saffron:

- (a) Assam
- (b) Jammu & Kashmir
- (c) Punjab

35. Panna Diamond mines are in:

- (a) Bihar
- (b) Uttar Pradesh
- (c) Madhya Pradesh

36. Which State in India is the largest producer of cardamom:

- (a) Maharashtra
- (b) Madhya Pradesh
- (c) Karnataka

37. Mica is abundantly found in the State of:

- (a) Bihar
- (b) Kerala
- (c) West Bengal
- (d) Madhya Pradesh

38. Marble is:

- (a) sedimentary rock
- (b) metamorphic rock
- (c) igneous rock

39. The planet which lies at the outermost orbit of the solar system is:

- (a) Pluto
- (b) Neptune
- (c) Uranus

40. Comets are luminous celestial bodies moving round the:

- (a) earth
- (b) sun
- (c) moon

41. Constellations are:

- (a) groups of fixed stars

(b) luminous celestial bodies moving round the sun	(a) Thomas Jefferson (b) Thomas Paine (c) George Washington	3. (c) 5. (c) 7. (a) 9. (c) 11. (c) 13. (b) 15. (a) 17. (a) 19. (a) 21. (d) 23. (d) 25. (a) 27. (a) 29. (d) 31. (b) 33. (b)	4. (b) 6. (c) 8. (c) 10. (b) 12. (b) & (e) 14. (c) 16. (b) 18. (c) 20. (c) 22. (b) 24. (a) 26. (c) 28. (c) 30. (a) 32. (a) 34. (b) 36. (c) 38. (b) 40. (b) 42. (d) 44. (b) 46. (a) 48. (b) 49. (a) 50. (c) 51. (c)
(c) lines drawn through places of equal heights above sea level	50. The Sumerian civilization flourished on the banks of the river:	(a) Tiber (b) Nile (c) Euphrates and Tigris	10. (b) 12. (b) 14. (c) 16. (b) 18. (c) 20. (c) 22. (b) 24. (a) 26. (c) 28. (c) 30. (a) 32. (a) 34. (b) 36. (c) 38. (b) 40. (b) 42. (d) 44. (b) 46. (a) 48. (b) 49. (a) 50. (c) 52. (c)
42. Which of the following countries did not take part in World War II:	51. Which of the following dynasties ruled in China?	(a) Bourbon (b) Windsor (c) Manchu (d) Pallavas	11. (c) 13. (b) 15. (a) 17. (a) 19. (a) 21. (d) 23. (d) 25. (a) 27. (a) 29. (d) 31. (b) 33. (b)
(a) Germany (b) U.S.A. (c) England (d) Canada	52. Who among the following great men belonged to Greece?	(d) Pallavas	22. (b) 24. (a) 26. (c) 28. (c) 30. (a) 32. (a) 34. (b) 36. (c) 38. (b) 40. (b) 42. (d) 44. (b) 46. (a) 48. (b) 49. (a) 50. (c) 52. (c)
43. Suez Canal was nationalised in the year:			51. (c)
(a) 1955 (b) 1956 (c) 1957			
44. The date 1st September, 1939 in world history is known for:			
(a) Invasion of Russia by Hitler (b) Declaration of World War II (c) Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour			
45. China exploded her first atom bomb device in:		ANSWERS	
(a) 1962 (b) 1963 (c) 1964		1. (a) 2. (c)	
46. In which year did Tenzing climb Mt. Everest?			
(a) 1953 (b) 1957 (c) 1959			
47. Slavery was abolished in the U.S.A. in 1863 by:			
(a) George Washington (b) Thomas Jefferson (c) Abraham Lincoln			
48. "Oder Neisse Line" defines the boundary drawn after the second World War between:			
(a) East Germany and West Germany (b) East Germany and Poland (c) Germany and France			
49. The Declaration of American Independence was largely written by:			

Economic Scene (Contd. from page 98)

and national output. He disclosed that US had a huge potential of non-oil energy sources. These sources are estimated to yield an equivalent of 15-20 million barrels per day (MBD) for the next ten years. Towards that end, it was proposed to deploy coal, nuclear power, synthetic fuels and renewable energy. The focus of the summit deliberations was on measures to "save that drop of oil", if we may say so, and to cut down consumption by reducing the oil element in their energy demand from 53 per cent to 40 per cent.

2. The French President maintained that the OPEC action to escalate the price of crude deserved condemnation (but with due caution that the friends in the Arab world are not alienated). Other leaders also viewed with deep concern the OPEC strategy to raise the price of crude and petroleum pro-

ducts.

3. The summit leaders painted a gloomy picture of the global economy and urged that the prospects of the world-wide recession and the accompanying unemployment posed grave dangers to the West. It was decided to make determined efforts to contain inflation, guard against unemployment and exercise fiscal and monetary discipline.

4. The summit meet also recognised the helpless plight of the developing nations and "offered to join others in long-term efforts to counter the extreme poverty and chronic malnutrition (which afflict hundreds of millions of people). They urged OPEC to recycle the surplus petro-dollars.

5. Protectionism was characterised as self-defeating and inflationary.

Objective-Type Tests

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Look to the answers at the end only after you have yourself solved all the questions.

Work as fast and as carefully as you can.

Q. I. A mistake occurs in one of the three parts into which each sentence below has been divided. Indicate this part by its number.

(a) The children were thumping the desks (1) and shouting at each other (2) as the teacher entered the classroom (3).

(b) I am afraid that his recent illness (1) coupled with his irregularity may effect (2) his chances of success in the examination (3).

(c) I am sure Mary will soon be married (1) because John, a decent young man (2) is paying his attentions to her for months (3).

(d) When the Flying Squad made a thorough search (1) many a candidate were found (2) in possession of material for copying (3).

(e) The old lady had graceful manners (1) and made all of us feel (2) immediately at home (3).

(f) According to the police verdict (1) the accused was in a drunken state (2) and obstructing traffic (3).

(g) I have told my parents (1) that if everything goes well (2) I will be home early (3).

(h) I now realize that (1) you were enough wise (2) not to allow him entry in your house (3).

(i) It is the duty of a judge
(1) neither to favour one party
(2) nor the other (3).

(j) The temper as well as the knowledge (1) of a modern historian require (2) a more sober and accurate language (3).

(k) As he rose in his seat (1) and looked in all directions (2) the audience cheered him lustfully (3).

(l) "I don't believe in ghosts" (1) said the pale-looking stranger (2) and vanished in thin air (3).

Q. II. Pick out the appropriate alternative.

A. He has carried on research—many fields of Modern Physics.

(a) over
(b) on
(c) in

B. Only dogs persist—their dogmas.

(a) with
(b) in
(c) on

C. As I was looking—the word in the Dictionary it occurred to me that the spelling might be incorrect.

(a) for
(b) about
(c) up

D. You need not remind me again and again, I am fully seized—the question.

(a) of

(b) with
(c) about

E. Try howsoever you may, you will not come across any exception—this rule.

(a) for
(b) about
(c) to

F. He is sweet and reasonable; no wonder he is popular—his subordinates.

(a) with
(b) among
(c) in

G. Though stringent measures have been taken, prices show no sign—coming down.

(a) about
(b) for
(c) of

H. He is not very intelligent—I recommend his appointment.

(a) and
(b) therefore
(c) but

I. He reproduced the answer word—word, as it was found in the book.

(a) by
(b) after
(c) for

J. Before you started you —me a letter.

(a) should write
(b) have written
(c) should have written

Q. III. Complete the words in the following sentences taking hints from the context and

their meaning given in brackets at the end of each sentence.

(a) The Principal was in—le in his opposition to the demand of the students. (unbending).

(b) To their utter co—on the swimmers saw a shark approaching. (panic).

(c) The new tenants, particularly the lady, were so lo—us that the neighbours avoided them. (talkative).

(d) Concentrating on my work, I am ob—us to the noise in the street. (unmindful).

(e) The project had to be abandoned because of pr—ve cost. (forbidding).

(f) The firemen wore masks that were im—us to the pungent smoke. (unaffected).

(g) The defendant was full of gratitude at the cley shown by the trying judge. (mercy).

(h) The witness repeated the conversation between the two accused ve—im. (exactly).

(i) The un—ng courage of the Captain gave the passengers hope that they might be saved. (unshaken).

(j) The almirah contained a pr—us array of linen, lavenders and love-letters. (mixed).

Q. IV. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given at the end.

I dislike cruelty, even cruelty to other people, and should therefore like to see all cruel people exterminated. But I should recoil with horror from a proposal to punish them. Let me illustrate my attitude by a very famous, indeed far too famous, example of the popular conception of criminal law as a means of delivering up victims to the normal popular lust for cruelty which has been mortified by the restraint imposed on

it by civilization. Take the case of the extermination of Jesus Christ. No doubt there was a strong case for it. Jesus was from the point of view of the High Priest a heretic and an impostor. From the point of view of the merchants he was a rioter and a communist. From the Roman Imperialist point of view he was a traitor. From the commonsense point of view he was a dangerous madman. From the snobbish point of view, always a very influential one, he was a penniless vagabond. From the police point of view he was an obstructor of thoroughfares, a beggar, an associate of prostitutes, an apologist of sinners, and a disparager of judges; and his daily companions were tramps whom he had reduced into vagabondage from their regular trades. From the point of view of the pious he was a Sabbath breaker, a denier of the efficacy of circumcision and the advocate of a strange rite of baptism, a gluttonous man and a wine bibber. He was abhorrent to the medical profession as an unqualified practitioner who healed people by quackery and charged nothing for the treatment. He was not anti-Christ; nobody had heard of such a power of darkness then; but he was startlingly anti-Moses. He was against the priests, against the judiciary, against the military, against the city (he declared that it was impossible for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of heaven), against all the interests, classes, principalities, and powers, inviting everybody to abandon all things, and follow him. By every argument, legal, political, religious, customary and polite, he was the most complete enemy of the society of his time ever brought to the bar. He was guilty on every count of the indictment and on many more than his accusers had not the wit to frame. If he was innocent then the whole world was

guilty. To acquit him was to throw over civilisation and all its institutions. History has borne out the case against him; for no State has ever constituted itself on his principles or made it possible to live according to his commandments; those states who have taken his name have taken it as an alias to enable them to persecute his followers more plausibly.

The Jerusalem community and the Roman government decided to exterminate him but there was neither right nor reason in torturing him. He was entitled to the painless death of Socrates.

(George Bernard Shaw)

q. 1. Which is the most appropriate title to the passage?

- (a) Killing of Jesus Christ
- (b) Extermination without Torture

(c) Christ, the great rebel of his day

q. 2. The key-sentence of the passage is:

(a) He (Christ) was the most complete enemy of the society of his time.

(b) I should like to see all cruel people exterminated.

(c) He (Christ) was entitled to the painless death of Socrates.

q. 3. Group A contains the classes that were opposed to Jesus Christ while Group B contains the grounds of their opposition Match the two.

A	B
(a) Romans	1. Quack
(b) Merchants	2. Vagabond
(c) Pious persons	3. Traitor
(d) Doctors	4. Drunkard
(e) Snobs	5. Disturber of Peace

q. 4. Tick the charges which the police had brought against Jesus Christ.

- (a) He is a communist
- (b) He creates disturbances in public places

(Contd. on page 128)

Objective-Type Tests

EVERYDAY SCIENCE

Look to the answers at the end only after you have yourself solved all the questions.

Work as fast and as carefully as you can.

Tick-mark the correct answer out of the choices given.

1. The dissolving of salt in water:

- (a) releases heat
- (b) absorbs heat
- (c) lowers the boiling point
- (d) does not affect the temperature of the water

2. When vaporisation occurs from solids, it is known as:

- (a) boiling
- (b) evaporation
- (c) sublimation
- (d) condensation

3. Scientists follow the movement of chemicals through plants by the use of:

- (a) antibiotics
- (b) auxins
- (c) radioactive tracers
- (d) X-rays

4. Plaster of Paris is made from:

- (a) limestone
- (b) gypsum
- (c) marble
- (d) bauxite

5. Urea is used as a/an:

- (a) insecticide
- (b) explosive
- (c) fertiliser
- (d) catalyst

6. If more energy is used in producing a sound wave, there will be an increase in its:

- (a) frequency
- (b) velocity
- (c) wavelength
- (d) amplitude

7. The reciprocal of the frequency of a wave is known as the wave's:

- (a) amplitude
- (b) wavelength
- (c) period
- (d) displacement

8. The flight paths of today's space vehicles are calculated by the use of formulas and laws credited to:

- (a) Kepler
- (b) Joule
- (c) Faraday
- (d) Fresnel

9. The product of the mass of a body and its velocity is called:

- (a) momentum
- (b) impulse
- (c) inertia
- (d) reaction

10. To escape from the earth, the speed of a rocket would have to be:

- (a) 21,000 km/hr
- (b) 28,000 km/hr
- (c) 40,000 km/hr
- (d) 64,000 km/hr

11. Which is an example of an animal that has been completely exterminated by man:

- (a) bison
- (b) dinosaur
- (c) passenger pigeon
- (d) rattle snake

12. The autonomic nervous system controls:

- (a) digestion
- (b) heating

- (c) seeing
- (d) thinking

13. Which one of the following terms includes all the other terms in the group?

- (a) maturation
- (b) mitosis
- (c) oogenesis
- (d) reduction division

14. Flowering plants include the:

- (a) algae
- (b) ferns
- (c) grasses
- (d) mosses

15. Some inborn acts are:

- (a) conditioned reflexes
- (b) habits
- (c) simple reflexes
- (d) voluntary acts

16. Blood typing is necessary in the transfusion of:

- (a) amino acids
- (b) dextrose
- (c) plasma
- (d) whole blood

17. Which part of the central nervous system interprets the sensation of heat?

- (a) cerebellum
- (b) cerebrum
- (c) medulla oblongata
- (d) spinal cord

18. An enzyme found in gastric juice is:

- (a) pepsin
- (b) ptyalin
- (c) invertase
- (d) diastase

19. Babies are given orange juice to supply vitamin:

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) C
- (d) D

20. The minute plants and animals of the sea, used as food by fish and now being explored as a source of food for man, are called:

- (a) plankton
- (b) algae
- (c) seaweed
- (d) protozoa

21. Natural fixation of nitrogen is accomplished by:

- (a) beans
- (b) corn
- (c) wheat
- (d) oats

22. A light year is about 6:

- (a) million miles
- (b) billion miles
- (c) trillion miles
- (d) quadrillion miles

23. The angle which the sun makes with the zenith is measured by the:

- (a) spectroscope
- (b) chronometer
- (c) telescope
- (d) sextant

24. It is warmer in summer than in winter because:

- (a) the earth is nearer to the sun
- (b) the sun's rays come from nearly overhead
- (c) the sun's rays are more slanting
- (d) the days are longer than the nights

25. Apparent solar time is not used for clocks because it:

- (a) never changes
- (b) changes constantly
- (c) changes occasionally
- (d) depends on the moon phase

Increases (I); Decreases (D); Remains the same (RS)

26. As an object approaches the speed of light, its mass—.

27. If a train is to round a curve, its speed should—.

28. When a piece of ice floating on the surface of water in a beaker melts completely, the level of water—.

29. A boat full of scrap iron is floating on water in a lake. If all the iron is dropped into the water, the level of water —with respect to the boat.

30. When a balloon rises to a great height, its volume

Explain

31. Why are high mountains cooler than plains?

32. Why are deserts hot during the day and cooler at night?

33. Why do we use the cooling arrangement in the four stroke engine?

34. Why do firemen wear helmets made of brass polished from outside?

35. How is the speed of a steam engine kept constant?

True-False Tests

Directions: Indicate whether each of the following statements is true or false. If the statement is false, supply the word or words which must be substituted for the term in italics to make it correct.

(a) The most acceptable explanation for the origin of the earth is the *Nebular Theory*.

(b) About 40% of the earth's crust is the element oxygen.

(c) Soil water enters the plant by way of the *cambium*.

(d) Wool is suitable for use in winter clothing because it is a poor conductor of heat.

(e) When shooting at an object immersed in water, you should aim at a point *higher* than the point where the object appears to be.

Fill in the blanks

37. Suggest the word or

words required to complete each of the following statements.

(a) The depositing of microscopic animal shells and skeleton formed the rock—.

(b) Sand is composed of the two elements—and—.

(c) Marble is metamorphosed—.

(d) The deepest spot in the ocean, located near—, has a depth of about—.

(e) The deepest that man has ever descended is about—.

Test your knowledge

38. The 1 is the largest part of the brain. It controls memory and receives stimuli from the 2 and 3. The 4 is a smaller part of the brain that controls co-ordination and 5. The third part of the brain, located at the upper end of the spine, is the 6. It controls the vital processes such as 7 and 8.

Sometimes sensory nerves send messages of pain to the spinal cord. Then 9 occurs as the motor nerves carry the response.

The nervous system also controls the production of 9 made by such glands as the thyroid which controls 10. The pancreas produces 11 to regulate the use of sugar and the adrenal glands produce 12 to prepare the body for vigorous exercise.

Scientific Vocabulary

39. (a) Fossils (b) Erosion
(c) Equator (d) Narcotics (e) Compression (f) Aseptic.

ANSWERS

1. (b)	2. (c)
3. (c)	4. (b)
5. (c)	6. (d)
7. (c)	8. (a)
9. (a)	10. (c)
11. (c)	12. (a)
13. (a)	14. (c)
15. (c)	16. (d)
17. (b)	18. (a)

19. (c) 20. (a)
 21. (a) 22. (c)
 23. (d) 24. (b)
 25. (b) 26. I
 27. D 28. RS
 29. D 30. I

31. Low density of air (consequently low absorptive power), rainfall, greater atmospheric circulation make the mountains cooler.

32. Good absorbers are good radiators. During the day, sand absorbs heat very quickly and, therefore, days are hot. On the other hand, sand radiates heat also very quickly and, therefore, the nights are cool.

33. Due to explosion in the cylinder, a lot of heat is produced. Without cooling arrangement, the valves, piston etc. will expand due to this heat, and, therefore, they will not work properly.

34. Polished metals are bad absorbers but good reflectors of heat. Therefore, during the operation of fire-extinguishing, the helmets reflect most of the heat of the fire and absorb very little.

35. This is done with the help of a device called speed-governor which works on the principle of centrifugal force.

36. (a) True
 (b) 50%
 (c) root hairs
 (d) True
 (e) lower
 37. (a) Limestone
 (b) silicon, oxygen
 (c) limestone
 (d) Philippine Islands,
 11 km.
 (e) 1.6 km.
 38. 1. cerebrum
 2. eyes
 3. ears
 4. cerebellum
 5. body balance
 6. medulla oblongata
 7. heart beat, breathing
 8. reflex action

9. hormones
 10. growth
 11. insulin
 12. adrenaline

39. (a) Any remains or trace of a plant or animal that lived in an earlier geologic age.

(b) The gradual wearing away of the earth's surface and carrying away and distribution of the debris (waste materials).

(c) The equator is a circle,

drawn on the earth's surface midway between the two poles, and at right angles to the axis.

(d) Narcotics are substances which, when taken into the body, temporarily decrease the activity of the nervous system.

(e) That part of a sound wave where the particles of the sound medium are closest together.

(f) free from germs.

Objective-Type Tests—English Language

(Contd. from page 125)

(c) He is a glutton
 (d) He has no respect for judges
 (e) He asks people to give up all they have
 (f) He associates with sinners.

(h) 2 (wise enough)
 (i) 2 (to favour neither one party)
 (j) 2 (requires)
 (k) 3 (lustily)
 (l) 3 (into thin air)

(Question II)

A. (c) B. (b)
 C. (c) D. (a)
 E. (c) F. (a)
 G. (c) H. (c)
 I. (c) J. (c)

(Question III)

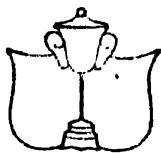
(a) inflexible
 (b) consternation
 (c) loquacious
 (d) oblivious
 (e) prohibitive
 (f) impervious
 (g) clemency
 (h) verbatim
 (i) unswerving
 (j) promiscuous

(Question IV)

q. 1. (b) q. 2. (c)
 q. 3. (a) 3 (b) 5 (c) 4 (d) 1 (e) 2.
 q. 4. (b), (d), (f).

(Question V)

(a) You should cut down your expenses.
 (b) He has let us down.
 (c) It would annoy me if the car broke down.
 (d) He would expect the teacher to point it out.
 (e) They would draw up an agreement.



SPORTS

XXII WORLD OLYMPIC GAMES

The XXII World Olympic Games, the first to be held in a Socialist country, got off to a spectacular start at the Central Lenin Stadium in Moscow on July 19. The formal opening of the Games by the Soviet Head of State, Mr Leonid Brezhnev, was followed by a breath-taking spectacle of a four-hour extravaganza. Lord Michael Killanin, President of the International Olympic Committee, presided over the colourful and poignant closing ceremony on August 3. Having reigned supreme in the I.O.C. since 1972, after the death of the previous President, Mr Avery Brundage, he handed over charge of the highest sports office to the newly-elected Chief, Mr Juan Antonio Samaranch of Spain.

Despite the U.S.-led boycott of the Games by 36 nations, following Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, 5,923 competitors and 2,554 officials from 81 countries participated in the four-yearly sports festival. Thus the Games were hit by politics for the second time in succession. During the 1976 Montreal Olympics, about 30 African and Arab countries had refused to participate unless the I.O.C. debarred New Zealand because of the sports connections with white-ruled South Africa. This action had resulted in the reduction of the number of participating countries to 84 and that of the competitors and officials to 6,934 and 2,225 respectively.

Whatever effect the boycott had on the level of performance, the destruction of records continued much as usual and 36 world and 73 Olympic marks were re-written.

U.S.S.R. ON TOP

The Soviet Union kept their accustomed place at the top of the medal table but they had to share honours in several events. Particular of note was the success story of the tiny East Germany, who, as at Montreal, reaped a rich harvest of medals. The final standings were:

Country	G	S	B
U.S.S.R.	80	69	46
East Germany	47	37	41
Bulgaria	8	16	16
Cuba	8	7	5
Italy	8	3	4
Hungary	7	10	15
Romania	6	6	13

France	6	5	3
Britain	5	7	9
Poland	3	14	15
Sweden	3	3	6
Finland	3	1	4
Czechoslovakia	2	3	9
Yugoslavia	2	3	4
Australia	2	2	5
Denmark	2	1	2
Brazil	2	0	2
Ethiopia	2	0	2
Switzerland	2	0	0
Spain	1	3	2
Austria	1	2	1
Greece	1	0	2
India	1	0	0
Belgium	1	0	0
Zimbabwe	1	0	0
N. Korea	0	3	2
Mongolia	0	2	2
Tanzania	0	2	0
Mexico	0	1	3
Netherlands	0	1	2
Ireland	0	1	1
Uganda	0	1	0
Venezuela	0	1	0
Jamaica	0	0	3
Guyana	0	0	1
Lebanon	0	0	1

Outstanding Performances

Seven world and nine Olympic records, some incredible running, jumping and throwing performances were the features of the eight-day athletics competition. The wiry little runner, Ethiopian army captain Miruts Yifter, stole the show with a grand golden distance double by winning the 5,000 and 10,000 metres races. The only athlete to achieve this distinction, he joined the elite group of those who have won both races in one Olympics. Finland's Lasse Viren was the last to bag both the events in 1972 at Munich and 1976 at Montreal.

The fastest athlete among men was Britain's Allen Wells who burst through the tape in 100 metres in 10.25 seconds. Ludmila Kondratyeva (USSR) claimed the same distinction among women. She clocked 11.00 seconds in 100 metres. Giving a superb display of speed, skill and stamina, Daley Thompson of Britain won the gruelling 10-event decathlon

with 8,495 points. Nadyezhdha Tkachenko (USSR) became the best all-round woman athlete amassing record-breaking 5,083 points in the five-event pentathlon. Valdemar Clerpinski of East Germany became the second man to repeat as Olympic marathon champion. The first was Abebe Bikila of Ethiopia who won the gold in this event in 1960 (Rome) and 1964 (Tokyo). Two fantastic records were set in jumping. Gerd Wessig (East Germany) cleared 2.36 metres (7 ft. 8 ins.) in high jump and Wladyslaw Kozakiewiczo (Poland) successfully negotiated the bar at 5.78 metres (18 ft. 11 ins.) in the pole vault.

Teofilo Stevenson of Cuba remained the "king" of amateur boxing when he won the heavyweight title (81 kg.). He thus completed a hat-trick, having claimed the crown at Munich and Montreal Olympics. The Cubans, it may be mentioned, won six of the eight finals.

India's Dismal Show

In the hope of building up the country's image in international field and making most of a depleted Olympics, India sent the largest-ever contingent—78 sportsmen and 13 officials—to Moscow. They took part in eight disciplines—athletics (men and women), hockey (men and women), basketball, boxing, equestrian, shooting, weightlifting and wrestling.

With the exception of winning a gold medal in men's hockey, the show put up by others was dismal. It became all the more reprehensible when they even failed to touch their own best, registered during the selection trials. There was a ray of hope for a medal in wrestling when two of the grapplers scored victories in the earlier rounds of the competition but they too failed to make use of the opportunity. Nineteen-year old Mahabir Singh won his first three rounds in the 48 kg. class but was beaten to the fifth place. Jagminder Singh did a little better in the 68 kg. category by reaching the fifth round. Thereafter, he too failed and was placed fourth.

The Indian maidens, making their maiden appearance in the maiden Women's Olympic Hockey Tournament, put up a fairly good fight but failed to find a place among the first three. It may be mentioned that, with the exception of the Soviet Union, the original other five teams had pulled out of the competition and their places had been filled by stand-byees, including India. The final standings were:

Country	Goals					
	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Zimbabwe	3	2	—	13	4	8
Czechoslovakia	3	1	1	10	5	7
USSR	3	—	2	11	5	6
India	2	1	2	9	6	5
Austria	2	—	3	6	11	4
Poland	—	—	5	0	18	0

Hockey Gold: Men's hockey too was badly affected by the boycott. Nine of the 12 countries, including Pakistan, West Germany, Holland, New Zealand and Australia, having withdrawn, only India, Spain and the USSR were left in the field. Three reserves—Poland, Cuba and Tanzania—were included and the six-nation tournament was run on round robin

league-cum-knockout basis. Before qualifying for the final, India defeated Tanzania (18-0), drew with Poland (2-2) and Spain (2-2), beat Cuba (13-0) and the USSR (4-2). Spain, the other finalists, defeated the USSR (2-1) and Tanzania (12-0), drew with India (2-2), beat Poland (6-0) and Tanzania (9-1). The final league table was:

Country	P	Goals					Pts.
		W	D	L	F	A	
Spain	5	4	1	—	33	3	9
India	5	3	2	—	39	6	8
USSR	5	3	—	2	30	11	6
Poland	5	2	1	2	19	15	5
Cuba	5	1	—	4	7	42	2
Tanzania	5	—	—	5	3	54	0

After remaining in wilderness for 16 years, India regained the hockey gold when they prevailed over Spain by four goals to three in a thrill-packed final on July 29.

Making their winning debut in the 1928 Amsterdam Olympic Games, India kept the title at Los Angeles (1932), Berlin (1936), London (1948), Helsinki (1952) and Melbourne (1956). India lost to Pakistan in the 1960 Rome Olympics but once again captured the top position in the 1964 Tokyo Games. That was the end of India's supremacy in the game. They got a bronze medal in the 1968 Mexico Games and finished in the same position in the 1972 Munich Games. In the 1976 Montreal Games, India were relegated to the 7th position.

Dictating terms, India scored two goals through Surinder Singh Sodhi in the first half and established a commanding lead of 3-0 when Harikrishan Kaushik found the net in the fifth minute after the breather. The Spaniards, however, were not to be subdued. In a thrusiful rally, Juan Amat converted two penalty corners and then his team-mates missed two good chances. India survived the Spanish blitzkrieg and Mohammad Shahid scored their fourth goal. A few minutes before the long whistle, Amat again sounded the boards for Spain. India, however, maintained their lead till the end.

India's winning team was:

Bir Bahadur Chettri; Dung Dung and Devinder Singh; Ravinder Pal Singh, Sommaiah and V. Bhaskaran (captain); Harikrishan Kaushik, Mervyn Fernandes, Surinder Singh Sodhi, Mohammad Shahid and Zafar Iqbal. Reserves: Alan Schofield, Rajinder Singh, Gurmeet Singh, Charanjit Kumar and Amarjit Singh. Manager: Mr. M. Dayanand. Coach: Balkishan Singh.

Final Placings: India 1, Spain 2, USSR 3, Poland 4, Cuba 5 and Tanzania 6.

110 M hurdles: Thomas Munkelt (East Germany) 13.39 sec.

400 M hurdles: Volker Beck (East Germany) 48.70 sec.

3,000 M Steeplechase: Bronislaw Malinowski (Poland) 8 : 09.7.

20 km walk: Maurizio Damilano (Italy) 1-23 : 35.5.

50 km walk: Hartwig Gauder (East Germany) 3-49 : 24.

High jump: Gerd Wessig (East Germany) 2.36 m (Olympic and World Record).

Pole vault: Wladyslaw Kozakiewicz (Poland) 5.78 m (Olympic and World Record).

Long jump: Lutz Dombrowski (East Germany) 8.54 m.

Triple jump: Jaak Uudmae (USSR) 17.35 m.

Shot put: Vladimir Kiseleyev (USSR) 21.35 m Olympic Record.

Discus throw: Viktor Rasschupkin (USSR) 66.64 m.

Hammer throw: Yuri Sedykh (USSR) 81.80 m (Olympic and World Record).

Javelin throw: Dainis Kulka (USSR) 91.20 m.

Decathlon: Daley Thompson (U.K.) 8495.

WOMEN

100 M: Lyudmila Kondratyeva (USSR) 11.06 sec.

200 M: Barbel Wockel (East Germany) 22.03 Olympic Record.

400 M: Marita Koch (East Germany) 48.88 Olympic Record.

800 M: Nadezhda Olizarenko (USSR) 1 : 53.5 (Olympic and World Record).

1,500 M: Tatyana Kazankina (USSR) 3 : 56.6 Olympic Record.

4x100 M relay: East Germany (Ingrid Auerswald, Maike Gohr, Romy Muller, Barbel Wockel) 41.60 (Olympic and World Record).

4x400 M relay: USSR (Illa Mineyeva, Tatyana Goitschik, Lyudmila Chernova, Tatyana Prorochenko) 3 : 20.2.

100 M hurdles: Vera Komisova (USSR) 12.56 Olympic Record.

High jump: Sara Simoni (Italy) 1.97 m Olympic Record.

Long jump: Tatyana Kolpakova (USSR) 7.06 m Olympic Record.

Shot put: Ilona Slupianek (East Germany) 22.41 Olympic Record.

Discus throw: Evelin Jahl (East Germany) 69.96 m Olympic Record.

Javelin throw: Maria Colon (Cuba) 68.40 Olympic Record.

Pentathlon: Nadezhda Tkachenko (USSR) 5083 (Olympic and World Record).

(Contd. on page 133)

Current General Knowledge

AWARDS & HONOURS

U.N. Peace Medal: Dr M.C. Modi, well-known for his free eye camps and mass eye operations, has been awarded the U.N. Peace Medal for his outstanding work in trying to eradicate blindness.

Magsaysay Award for 1980: Shigeru Matsumoto of Japan has been awarded the Magsaysay Award for "international understanding" in recognition of his efforts to build constructive relations between the Japanese and others "through shared knowledge of their diverse histories, needs and national aspirations." Mr Matsumoto heads the International House of Japan which he founded in 1952.

Jamnalal Bajaj Awards: (1) *For scientific research:* Dr Anil Sadasgopal, a 39-year-old scientist, has been awarded the prestigious Jamnalal Bajaj Award for his pioneering research on the application of science and technology for rural development. (2) *For social service:* Two social workers—Mrs Jaishreeben Rajji and Mrs Kamalabai Hospet—share the award for their outstanding contribution to the welfare and upliftment of women and children. (3) *Constructive work:* Gandhi Niketan Ashram in Kallupatti in Madurai district has been selected for an award for outstanding contribution in the field of constructive work.

All the awards carry Rs. 1 lakh each with Mrs Rajji and Mrs Hospet sharing the award in their field.

Sarabhai Awards for 1979: Four distinguished scientists have been awarded the Shri Hari Om Ashram Prerit Dr Vikram Sarabhai Research Award for 1979. They are: (1) Dr S.C. Gupta, closely associated with the control and guiding system of S.L.V.-3; (2) Prof A.B. Bhattacharya of the Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi, for his work in the field of electronics and telecommunications; (3) Dr K.S. Krishnaswamy of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research for his pioneering work in the field of planetary and space sciences, and (4) Dr S.K. Ghosh, Director of the Meteorological Office, Delhi, for his research on a number of complex phenomena related to the Indian summer mon-

soon and for prediction of storm surges which severely damage life and property.

The award consists of a medal and Rs. 8,000.

Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award: The following scientists have won the award for 1978 and 1979.

For 1978

Physical Sciences: Prof E.S. Rajagopal of Indian Institute of Science (IIS), Bangalore and Dr J.V. Narlikar, TIFR.

Chemical Sciences: Prof Govardhan Mehta of Hyderabad University and Prof Girish Govil of TIFR.

Biological Sciences: Prof Viswanath Sisekaran of ITS.

Engineering Sciences: Dr S.N. Seshadri (BARC) and Prof D.V. Singh of Roorkee University.

Earth Sciences: Prof B.L.K. Samayajulu (PRL) and Dr M.N. Siddique of National Institute of Oceanography.

For 1979

Physical Sciences: Prof S.S. Jha of TIFR and Prof A.K. Ghatak of IIT, New Delhi.

Biological Sciences: Prof A.N. Bhaduri of Jadavpur University and Dr M.K. Chandrasekar of Madurai Kamraj University.

Engineering Sciences: Prof P. Rama Rao of HHU.

Mathematical Sciences: Prof S. Ramnan and Prof S. Raghavan both of TIFR.

Earth Sciences: Prof V.K. Gaur of Roorkee University.

BIRTH CENTENARY

The birth centenary of Munshi Prem Chand, famous Indian novelist, was celebrated on July 31, 1980.

CONSTITUTION

Q. What are the reasons given in the Supreme Court's judgement of May 9, 1980 holding that Parliament's amending power to the Indian Constitution is not absolute?

Awards and Honours

Birth Centenary

Constitution

Persons

Places, Projects

Space Research

U.N.O.

Miscellany

How has the difference between fundamental rights and Directive Principles been defined in the judgement?

Ans. The Supreme Court has held that Article 368(4) and (5) introduced in the Constitution by Clause 55 of the 42nd Amendment, 1976 converts a controlled Constitution into an uncontrolled one, a limited amending power into an absolute power and robs the courts of the power of judicial review, thereby rendering fundamental rights into a "writ in water". The decision in Kesavananda Bharati case, says the judgement, does not permit Parliament to confer on itself a vast and undefined power to amend the Constitution so as to distort it out of recognition.

Coming to Article 31(C), the judges held that the heart of matter was: "Whether the Directive Principles of State Policy contained in Part IV of the Constitution can have primacy over the fundamental rights conferred by Part III.

The judges held that just as the fundamental rights would be without a radar and a compass if they were not geared to an ideal, in the same manner the attainment of the ideals set out in the Directive Principles would become a pretence for tyranny if the price to be paid for achieving that ideal is human freedom.

This harmony and balance between Directive Principles and Fundamental Rights formed an essential feature of the Constitution and to give the primacy to one over the other would be to disturb the harmony. Art. 31(C) abrogated the fundamental rights to equality and the seven freedoms for citizens in Art. 19. In terms of Kesavananda Bharati case this was impermissible as fundamental rights had been called therein "the ark of the Constitution". Without Article 14 and 19 free democracy is impossible and these must therefore be preserved at all costs, the judgement said.

According to the judgement, Parliament cannot have unlimited power to amend the Constitution and cannot write into the Constitution that an amendment made by it "shall not

be called into question in any court on any ground."

PERSONS

Charles, Miss Mary Eugenia: She is the first woman Prime Minister of Dominica, the newly-independent Caribbean island nation.

Miss Charles, a 61-year-old lawyer, who belongs to Dominica Freedom Party, describes herself as a liberal democrat, anti-Communist and a believer in free enterprise.

Matsumoto, Shigeharu: who heads the International House of Japan which he founded in 1952, has been named for the Manila-based Ramon Magsaysay Award for "international understanding" in recognition of his efforts to build constructive relations between the Japanese and others "through shared knowledge of their diverse histories, needs and national aspirations."

Mr Matsumoto, 81, had carved a journalistic career in his early years as the Dornei news agency correspondent in Shanghai.

Mohammed Rafi: Noted Hindi playback singer who died on July 31 at the age of 55, had warmed the hearts of millions of film-goers and music-lovers in India and abroad.

Born on December 24, 1924, Rafi started his singing career with a Punjabi film, "Bulgajah", in Lahore in 1941 at the age of 17. Since then, he sung over 25,000 songs for a chain of film heroes in a career spanning four eventful decades.

At the peak of his career in the sixties, Rafi was awarded the Padma Shri for his contribution to Indian music. His haunting voice in the evergreen song, "Babul ki duaen leti ja, ja tujko sukhi sansar mile", in "Neel Kamal" in 1968 won him the Best Playback Singer of the Year award.

Pahlavi, Reza Mohammed: the former Shah of Iran who was toppled from power in January, 1977, died in Cairo on July 27 at the age of 60 following a protracted illness. He had arrived in Egypt last March to take refuge there.

Peter Sellers: who died on July 24 was a famous film actor who played a wide variety of comedy roles in more than 40 films, including the character of a French detective, Inspector Clouseau in the "Pink Panther" series. He was nominated for an Oscar for his latest film "Being There".

Prem Chand, Munshi: was a noted novelist who wrote in Hindi and Urdu. He was in the news when on July 31, 1980, his birth centenary was celebrated and it was decided by

a national committee to make his works easily available through translations in every Indian language and also spread his works abroad through translations.

Rajai, Mohammad Ali: who became the second Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran (the first P.M. being Dr Bazargan who had resigned in November 1979) on August 12, is a religious fundamentalist. On assuming office, he said he would look on his new responsibilities "as a religious duty".

He also said that his Cabinet, according to the wishes of Ayatollah Khomeini, would be "100% Islamic", adding "I will oppose formation of a coalition Government."

Samrin, Heng: He is chairman of the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea.

PLACES

Vanuatu: The New Hebrides Islands, the South Sea archipelago, was in the news when on July 29, it became the independent nation of Vanuatu after 74 years of joint colonial rule by France and Britain.

Father Walter Lini was sworn in Prime Minister.

The new nation, however, faces an uncertain and troubled future because of continuing resistance by secessionist rebels on the island of Espiritu Santo who have threatened to fight the new Government.

PROJECTS

Project Tiger: The Union Government has reconstituted the Steering Committee of Project Tiger with Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi as the Chairman. She is also the Chairman of the Indian Board of Wildlife.

Project Tiger was launched on April 1, 1973, following the decision to save the tiger from extinction taken at the meeting here of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) in December 1969. Mrs Gandhi thus assumes chairmanship of the project which she had helped launch.

The Project Tiger started with nine tiger reserves in the country with an estimated population of 262 in 1972. Seven years later, and with two more reserves, the tiger population in these preserves has gone upto 711 (1979 census).

The reserves under the Project are: Manas (Assam), Palamau (Bihar), Simlipal (Orissa), Corbett (Uttar Pradesh), Ranthambore and Sariska (Rajasthan), Kanha (Madhya Pra-

desh), Melghat (Maharashtra), Bandipur (Karnataka), Sunderbans (West Bengal), and Periyar (Kerala).

The World Wildlife Fund has shown keen interest in this essentially Indian project with funds totalling one million dollars for equipment, vehicles, binoculars, wireless sets, literature, training etc. Of this amount, about five lakh dollars have been spent so far.

The Project, which received hundred per cent Central grants till the end of the fifth plan (1978-79) is now financed by the Centric and the States on a 50 : 50 basic.

SPACE RESEARCH

Viking I spacecraft ends mission: The U.S. Viking-1 orbiter spacecraft has run out of fuel and can no longer contact earth as it begins its 75-year tumble toward the surface of Mars. It thus ended "the most exciting decade in the history of space exploration" as reported by scientists on August 9.

With the 2,330 kg spacecraft almost out of steering power which has kept it in orbit around Mars for four years, the Ground Control Centre in Pasadena, California, sent up a command to shut off the spacecraft's radio transmitter.

On July 20, 1976, a machine which Viking had landed on the surface of Mars sent back, line by line, the first sensational close-up pictures of the red, rocky and arid landscape of the planet.

The pictures were relayed up to Viking from the lander machine and then sent down to earth by the more powerful transmitter on the spacecraft.

With its tanks out of gas, the spacecraft is expected to tumble around in the Martian sky out of control.

But its lander vehicle which is still resting on the rocky northern hemisphere Martian plains which it photographed is still working and will send back intermittent weather reports from its own transmitter.

Soyuz-37: On July 24, Russia launched Soyuz-37 spacecraft with a Soviet commander Victor Gorbatko and a Vietnamese scientist Pham Tuan aboard to link up with an orbiting Soviet Space train. Soyuz-37 linked up with the orbiting space train composed of the Salyut-6 space station and the Soyuz-36 spacecraft which has cosmonauts Leonid Popov and Valery Rymin aboard on July 25 to conduct "numerous experiments prepared by specialists from the two countries. After a week-long space

mission, both the cosmonauts landed back safely in Central Asia.

Cosmonauts from Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Poland, Bulgaria and Hungary have made space flights under the Soviet intercosmos programme, but Colonel Pham is the first man from the Third World to make a space trip. Cuban, Mongolian and Romanian cosmonauts are believed to be in training for further trips.

Bhaskara-2: India's second earth observation satellite—Bhaskara-2, is scheduled for launching in the middle of next year. A model to verify the integrated performance of the satellite being readied at the Indian Space Research Organisation Centre, Bangalore.

The new development in Bhaskara-2, compared to Bhaskara-1, is the incorporation of a new microwave radiometer channel.

The satellite will be launched from a Soviet cosmodrome.

U.N.O.

St Vincent and Grenadines, a Caribbean nation, was admitted as the 152nd member of the U.N.O. The Security Council at its meeting on February 5, 1980, had approved its application for U.N. membership.

Zimbabwe (*formerly Rhodesia*), which achieved independence on April 8, 1980, was admitted as the 53rd member of the world body on August 25. The U.N. Security Council had unanimously endorsed on July 7, the application by Zimbabwe for membership of the United Nations.

MISCELLANY

Rupee worth 22·12 paise: The real value of the rupee has fallen from 30·09 paise in 1957 to 22·12 paise in 980.

The real value showed a gradual decline, sometimes showing a loss of five paise or more a year. Only in 1976 had the value gone up by two paise to 27·78 paise.

State Bank now has 5,188 branches: The State Bank of India, celebrating its Silver Jubilee this year has claimed that 477 branches which it inherited from the Imperial Bank have risen to 5,188. It has mobilised deposits of over Rs 8,558 crore and deployed credit worth Rs. 5,726 crore against Rs. 188 crore and Rs. 110 crore respectively in the mid-50s.

14,843 million unemployed: There were 14,843 million unemployed persons in the country as on April 30, Labour Minister T. Anjaiah told the Lok Sabha on July 1.

Maharashtra 2nd in Per Capita
Maharashtra continues to

occupy the second position among the States in *per capita* income—the first being Punjab. But this is mainly due to the prominence of the organized manufacturing activity concentrated in the industrial belt of Bombay-Pune and Thane.

India's population 667 m: India's population last year stood at 667 million having registered a growth rate of 2 per cent between 1975-79, the U.S. Census Bureau announced on July 10.

China with a population of 1,012 million and a growth rate of 1·6 per cent, continued to be the most populous nation. It was followed by India, the Soviet Union (263 million) and the U.S.A. (221 million).

Among the 87 countries for which the bureau gave the breakdown Kampuchea, West Germany and Switzerland recorded minus growth rates.

Statue of Jain saint nearing 1000th year: Gomateshwara, the 17-metre high lignite colossus, surveying the landscape of Hassan (Karnataka), completes a thousand years of existence in February 1981.

The nude statue of the Jain saint, dexterously chiselled out of the Indragiri mountain top at the modern Sravanabelagola, 134 km. from here, was erected by a general under King Rachamalla IV, who ruled this part of the country during 974 to 981 A.D.

The thousand years of the statue will be celebrated in February when millions of devotees are expected to gather.

The nudity of the statue symbolises renunciation of worldly attachments.

A flight of 500 steps cut out in the granite hill leads to the summit upon which stands an open court surrounded by corridors containing cells, each enshrining a Jain god. In the centre of the court stands Gomateshwara.

Once in 12 years, a festival of worship called Mahamastakabhisheka (head anointing ceremony) is performed of Gomateshwara.

Tropospheric link between India, USSR soon: A tropospheric communication link which will provide high quality telecommunication service between India and the USSR is expected to become operational by the end of this year.

Under this system radio waves will be directed towards the Himalayas separating India and the USSR. The peaks will act as knife edges to bend a small portion of the incident energy in the direction of the receiving terminal.

The existing telecommunication services between the two countries are operated on high frequency radio link between Delhi and Moscow, supplemented by satellite circuits. Due to inherent technical limitations, these facilities are not considered adequate.

According to an official release, the Indian terminal for the link is located at Chirai-L-Sherif, 23 km. west of Srinagar. The estimated cost of the terminal is about Rs. 4 crores.

The Soviet Union will supply radio equipment and technical assistance for the project while the Electronics Corporation of India will supply two antennas for the Soviet terminal.

S P O R T S

(Contd. from page 130)

CRICKET

West Indies-England Tests: Defiant batting by England in their second innings foiled the West Indies' bid to win the third Test which ended in a draw at Manchester on July 15.

SCORES:

*England: 150 and 391 for seven.
West Indies: 260.*

An unbeaten century partnership for the last wicket between Peter Willey and Bob Willis enabled England to salvage a draw against the West Indies in the fourth Test at the Oval (London) on July 29. The touring team lead 1-0 in the five-match series after a two-wicket win in the first Test at Nottingham.

SCORES:

*England: 370 and 209 for nine dec.
West Indies: 265.*

TENNIS

Hall of Fame Title: Vijay Amritraj of India won the \$ 100,000 Hall of Fame Tennis Championship when he defeated Andrew Pattison of Zimbabwe, 6-1, 5-7, 6-3 in the final at Newport (Rhode Island) on July 13. Amritraj had previously won this distinction in 1976.

LOSS TO SPORTS

B.C. Mohanty Dead: Mr B.C. Mohanty, a Vice-President of the Indian Olympic Association and Senior Vice-President of the Board of Control for Cricket in India, died of a heart attack at Moscow on July 23. He was 67. Mr Mohanty, who was a former member of the Rajya Sabha, was known as the father of sports in Orissa. His body was flown to Cuttack for cremation.

India and Pakistan : New Arms Race

(Contd. from page 92)

preparations during the years 1974 to 1977. The corresponding Indian percentages are 2·7, 3, 3·1 and 3·1. Pakistan's *per capita* expenditure on arms has also been considerably higher, not including the huge arms aid it has been receiving from foreign countries. As for the Rs. 1300-crore arms deal between India and the USSR, of which Pakistan makes so much, the fresh equipment Delhi has asked for is mostly replacements for old and outdated items.

The Delhi session have been utilised by the Indian spokesman to clarify this country's stand on two other issues. Pakistan has lately been suggesting talks at the level of military commanders for a mutual reduction of forces. As Mr Swaran Singh explained at Islamabad during his visit earlier this year, India feels such talks would be fruitless in the absence of the requisite trust and confidence between the two countries. Moreover, it would be neither realistic nor feasible

to make it a purely military exercise; it must reflect "a shared political perception and understanding of each country's security needs by the other."

The second point on which there was only a partial and broad agreement concerned the Afghanistan situation. The Pakistan Foreign Minister agreed on the need for a political solution. India's emphasis on initiating the process of consultations among the countries most directly involved was shared by Pakistan, but Mr Agha Shahi pointed out the "constraint" that any dialogue with the present Afghan Government would amount to its recognition in terms of the resolution of the Islamic Foreign Ministers' Conference held in May. India has been pressing for urgent negotiations. The chances of a fruitful dialogue succeeding, however, seem far from bright in view of the Soviet Union's decision to stay put in Kabul, for the time being at any rate.

India's Export Performance since 1970s

(Contd. from page 96)

Conclusion: If the export sector is not viewed in isolation (as it should not be) but in a wider context, it is obvious that the situation seems to be rather grim. As a source of financing imports, India's export performance during 1970s is far less impressive than it appears on the surface. The basic problem is to step up real national income and to generate exportable sur-

plus by reducing consumption, if necessary. At the same time, the developed nations must abandon the policy of protection in favour of liberal imports and the developing nations must co-operate together and pool their resources (including technology) to increase production and exports among themselves and also with the rich countries.

Fascinating Facts (Contd. from page 110)

leaving seven pregnant for study. The offspring of these ewes weighed up to 27 per cent less, and had brains which were significantly smaller and less developed than those of the lambs born to normal mothers.

Laser for retinal operation

Soviet scientists and designers have created a laser *koker* which can perform most complex miniature operations on the retina with unerring precision.

The one-square-millimeter "yellow spot" in the eye retina being 'responsible' for 95 per cent of human eyesight, top class expertise in such surgical operations is indispensable. And laser has offered such expertise

Scientists have determined all possible variants of the operation with the help of a computer. This programme helps determine the intensity duration and shape of the impulse.

The optical quantum generator has been tested in operation at the Filatov Research Institute for eye diseases and tissue thereby in Odessa and has been highly appraised by experts.

Is the Party System in India Decaying?

(Contd. from page 94)

the nine States immediately on her return to power at the Centre. She may face difficulties in implementing her plans, projects and policies in the four States where non-Congress (I) parties are holding sway at present.

Conclusion

The party system in India has fallen into complete disarray. Polarisation is still a far cry. We are back to one-party rule in the country, except in four States. Whether this will give us the 'government that works' time alone will reveal.

VOCABULARY

(Meaning of the Selected Words used in this issue)

abhorrent: detesting; repugnant; strongly opposed; out of keeping; detestable.

abyssmal: bottomless; unfathomable; very deep.

adage: an old saying ; a proverb.

adder: a viper.

aphrodisiac: exciting sexually; that which so excites.

appease: to pacify; to propitiate by concessions; to satisfy ; to quiet; to allay.

arable: fit for ploughing or tillage.

assiduous: constant or unremitting in application.

avid: greedy; eagerly desirous.

bamboozle: to deceive; to confound or mystify.

banal: common place; trivial; flat.

bibber: a tippler; tipples means to drink constantly in small quantities.

canoe: a boat made of the hollowed trunk of a tree or of bark or skins; a skiff driven by paddling.

carping: cavilling; fault-finding.

circumcision: the act of being purified; the state of being purified; those who are purified esp. the Jews.

connive: to wink; to take no notice; to have a private understanding.

consternation: terror that throws into confusion; dismay.

desultory: jumping from one thing to another; without rational or logical connexion; rambling; hasty; loose.

disparager: an unequal match.

dossier: a bundle of documents relating to a person or case; a brief.

effusive: poured out abundantly; gushing; poured out at the surface in a state of fusion, volcanic; expressing emotion in a copious and demonstrative manner.

escalade: the scaling of the walls of a fortress by means of ladders.

exuberant: luxuriant; overflowing; abounding; in high spirits; lavish.

gimlet: a small tool for boring holes by turning it with the hand.

hawk: to force up; from the throat; a plasterer's slab with handle below; any bird of the falcon family other than the eagles, esp. the sparrow-hawk.

hegemony: leadership ; preponderant influence esp. of one state over others.

heretic: the upholder of the belief contrary to the authorised teaching of one's natural religious community; the upholder of the opinion opposed to the usual or conventional belief.

idiosyncrasy: peculiarity of temperament or mental constitution; any characteristic of a person.

impervious: not to be penetrated.

impostor: one who assumes a false character or personates another.

infructuous: not fruitful.

inquisition: searching examination; investigation; judicial inquiry.

interminable: without termination or limit; boundless; endless.

loquacious: talkative.

mundane: worldly; earthly; cosmic.

oblivious: forgetful; prone to forget; causing, or associated with, forgetfulness; rapidly or absentmindedly unaware; ignoring.

offertory: act of offering; the thing offered; the money collected at a religious service; anciently a linen or silken cloth used in various ceremonies connected with the administration of the eucharist.

pandemonium: any very disorderly or noisy place or assembly; tumultuous uproar.

placcate: an apron; a petticoat; a pocket, esp. in skirt; a woman.

platitude: flatness; a dull commonplace or truism; an empty remark made as if it were important.

plausibly: in an acceptable or fair showing or specious manner; with applause, by acclamation; commendably, pleasantly.

polemical: given to disputing; controversial.

promiscuous: confusedly or indiscriminately mixed; collected together without order; indiscriminate;

haphazard; belonging to a mixed set; (old slang) far from choice.

rancour: harboured bitterness; deep-seated enmity; spite; virulence; sourness.

recant: to retract; to revoke a former declaration; to unsay what has been said, esp. to declare one's renunciation of one's former religious belief.

reconnaissance: a preliminary survey; an attack by a large body to discover the enemy's position and strength.

reprehensible: flagrantly wrong.

reprieve: to delay the execution of; to give a respite to; to rescue, redeem. n. a suspension of a criminal sentence; interval of ease or relief.

rhetoric: insincere in style; pertaining to rhetoric, oratorical; inflated, over-decorated.

sarcasm: a bitter sneer; a satirical remark in scorn or contempt, often but not necessarily ironical.

scalding: a cry of warning to get out of the way, as if of hot water.

seduce: to draw aside from party, belief, allegiance, service, duty, etc. to lead astray; to entice; to corrupt; to induce to perform an act of unchastity with oneself.

sneer: to show cynical contempt by the expression of the face, as by drawing up the lip; to express such contempt in other ways; to grin.

snob: a person of ordinary or low rank; an ostentatious vulgarian; one who makes himself ridiculous or odious by the value he sets on social standing or rank, by his fear of being ranked too low, and by his different behaviour towards different classes.

subterfuge: an evasive device, esp. in discussion; a refuge.

tramp: to tread, esp. heavily or noisily to walk; to go on walking tour or long walk; to go about as a vagrant.

twirl: to spin; to whirl; to twist; to coil.

vicissitude: change; alteration; mutation; change of fortune.

votary: one devoted as by a vow to some service, worship or way of life; one enthusiastically addicted to a pursuit, study etc.; a devoted adherent.

Appointments Etc.

Appointed, Elected Etc.

Abolhassan Banisadr: who took office early February, formally sworn in as President of Iran.

Mohammad Ali Rajai: Appointed Prime Minister of Iran.

Luis Garcia Meza: Army Commander, appointed President of Bolivia following military take-over of the country.

Quett Masire: Appointed President of Botswana, following the death of Sir Seretse Khama.

(Miss) *Mary Eugenia Charles:* of Dominica Freedom Party, appointed Prime Minister after this Caribbean island nation's first post-independence election.

Fernando Belaunde: Appointed new President of Peru, 12 years after restoration of civilian rule in the country.

Shyam Lal Yadav: The Congress (I) nominee, elected Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha in a straight contest on July 30.

Gurdial Singh Dhillon: former Speaker of the Lok Sabha, appointed High Commissioner of India to Canada. He succeeds late Gen Tapishwar Narain Raina.

Madan Lal Suri: Ambassador-designate to Panama, concurrently accredited as Ambassador to Costa Rica and Nicaragua with residence in Panama City in succession to Miss Nichdieu Nikki Haralu.

Somboon Rochanakorn: Appointed Ambassador of Thailand to India.

J.R. Joshi: Appointed Chairman of the Life Insurance Corporation of India. He succeeds Mr J. Matthan who retired after completing his term in July.

K. R. Narayanan: Appointed India's Ambassador to the U.S.A.

Correction

H.C. Sarin is the Principal Adviser to the Governor of Assam and not Governor of Assam as wrongly printed on page 48 of the August '80 issue.

The mistake is very much regretted.

—Editor.

Peter Sellers: film actor, famous for a wide variety of comedy roles in more than 40 films.

Uttam Kumar: film actor, perhaps the greatest matinee idol of the Bengali screen.

Mohammed Rafi: Noted playback singer.

Shankar Giri: a former M.P. and the eldest son of the late President V.V. Giri.

Jejomal Naoomal: cricketer who opened India's innings in the first-ever Test played by India against England at Lords in 1932. He was 76.

EVENTS

JULY

- 18—Bolivia's armed forces overthrow President Lidia Guiler.
- 22nd Olympic Games open in Moscow.
- 25—Accord reached between the sponsors of the agitation and the Union Government to break the deadlock for the resumption of negotiations on the foreign nationals issue in Assam.
- 29—The Olympic hockey crown is back with India after a break of 10 years.
- 30—The Union Government takes a major step to help bring about the withdrawal of the Assam agitation by agreeing to revoke the notifications considered as "repressive measures" by the Assam agitators.
- An agreement for ending underground activity and security operations in Mizoram as a prelude to the resumption of talks between the Government and the Mizo National Front (M.N.F.) leader, Mr Laldenga, announced in Parliament by the Home Minister.

AUGUST

- 1—Mr Justice P.N. Bhagwati of the Supreme Court agrees with the May 9, 1980, decision of four of his brother judges that Parliament does not have unlimited power to amend the Constitution and cannot write into the Constitution that an amendment made by it "shall not be called into question in any court on any ground."

- India takes up development of missiles.
- 2—Bihar Government scraps total prohibition.
- Assam stir withdrawn; detainees freed.
- 3—Pakistan stock-piling nuclear materials; another nuclear plant under construction at Pinstech near Rawalpindi.
- U.S.A. rejects Israeli law to absorb east Jerusalem into a United Jewish capital.
- The Soviet Union to assist India by providing certain components free of cost for her second earth observation satellite "Bhaskara-2" which is scheduled to be launched in the middle of 1981.
- 4—India again rejects Pak plea for N-free zone.
- 9—Death of Gen Yahya Khan, former President of Pakistan.
- 10—Identity cards to be issued to each voter in future elections.
- 11—Sixth Plan frame, strategy, finalised to achieve a targeted growth rate of 5·5%.
- 14—President Jimmy Carter of the U.S.A. re-nominated to contest for Presidential election due in November.
- 18—Assam talk: deadlocked.

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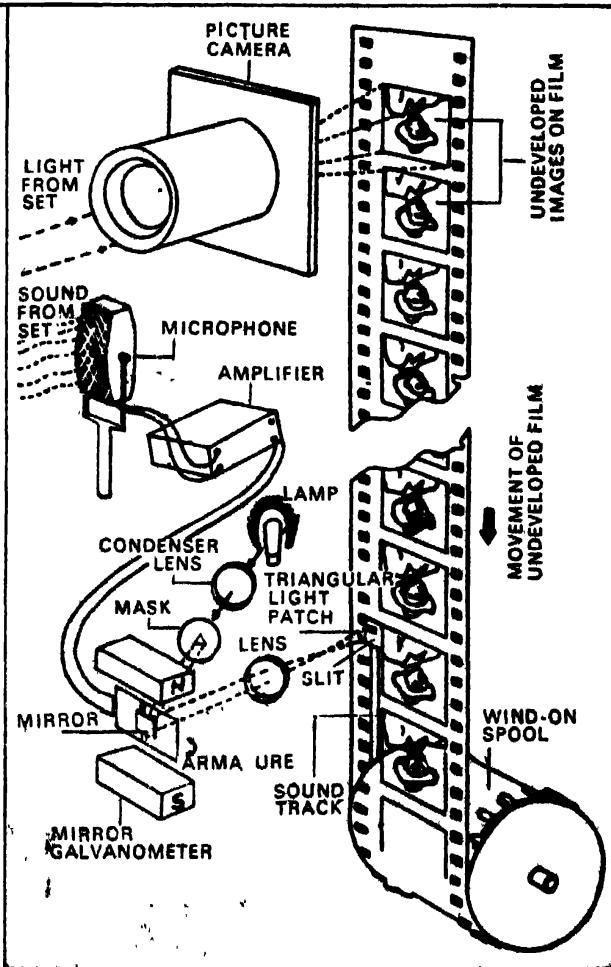
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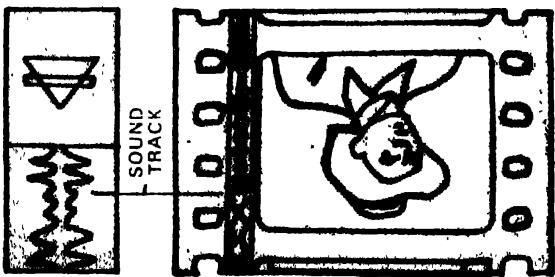
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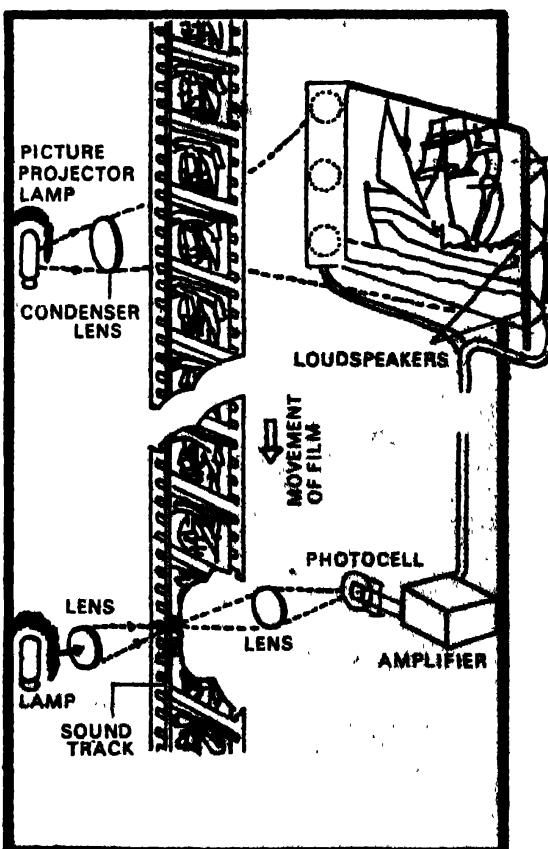
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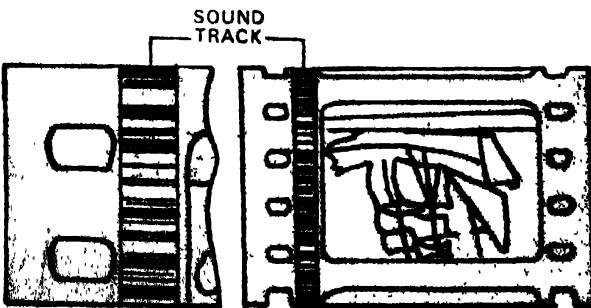
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Letter from the Editor

Enterprise & Enthusiasm

Dear Readers,

No man ever worked his passage anywhere in a dead calm, said John Neal. Kites rise against, not with the wind.

Attempt the end, and never stand to doubt; nothing so hard but search will find it out.

To do anything in this world worth doing, we must not stand back shivering and thinking of the cold and danger, but jump in and scramble through as best as we can.

Our constant endeavour is to keep up your enthusiasm and confidence through the pages of the CM to prepare you for a successful life.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Editor

This is the Government That Works

THE major poll plank of Mrs Indira Gandhi and her newly reinforced party during the general election held early this year was: "Elect the Government that Works". It was a well-deserved reflection on the previous Janata-Lok Dal regimes which marked a period of virtual no-Government. But nearly nine months of the political switch-over have passed without there being any concrete sign of a firm and effective Government in the country. The state of inaction, lassitude and the non-performance has, in fact, prompted many to describe the present administration as the most ineffective since Independence. Little is done apart from making speeches and issuing circulars. It is just words, words and words.

The country has witnessed communal riots on an unprecedented scale; mischief-mongers have found it easy to start trouble when and where they please; rioting recurs again and again with a vengeance. Disturbances have become the norm in certain regions and there is hardly any security of life for the people in the affected States. There are private arsenals galore. A former I.G. of Police has stated that Moradabad and Aligarh have more unauthorised arms and weapons than Britain or Japan. Revolvers have been smuggled from across the border into India for use in U.P. riots. There has been a heavy loss of life and property. All this under the very nose of the Government that works.

Mrs Gandhi's famous slogan was "Gharibi Hatao". According to reliable data, more than half the people of this country still live below the poverty line. What is more, the percentage of poor people in the country is increasing despite all the development plans and the welfare schemes the successive regimes flaunt. Moreover, there is no end to the economic disparities which are becoming even more glaring than ever before. But never mind. India, that is Bharat, now has a Government that works.

Note the soaring, runaway prices. The spurt, despite adequate production in most commodities, is scandalous and the Government merely issues warnings to the traders and then the Ministers and their secretaries sit complacently in their air-conditioned offices. As for the sugar scandal, the less said the better. Never in India's history have sugar prices been so high. Through collusion between the administration and the sugar manufacturers

the hapless consumer is being fleeced. The sugar hoarders have made crores by way of profits right under the eye of the Government that works.

According to reports from Madhya Pradesh and some parts of U.P., the number of dacoit gangs has increased rapidly during the past few months. Those who surrendered arms through Jayaprakash Narayana's persuasion are back at their old game. There is a general state of lawlessness in the country and people are fast losing confidence in Mrs Gandhi's regime. The Ministry she has formed is widely known to be one of that lacks talent; it is a team of mediocres, even of less than mediocres, some of whom have proved totally unfit for the responsibilities entrusted to them. There have even been serious allegations against certain Ministers. But no action is taken, and all faults and foibles are being ignored. But the citizen should have no cause to worry. He has a Government that works.

There have been wild rumours of crores of rupees changing hands in the defence contracts and deals for the purchase of certain aircraft, cancellations and orders for new models. The Jaguar scandal is still fresh in the minds of keen observers of the dismal scene. Can there be large-scale corruption, graft, liberal "kick-backs", "pay-offs" and other malpractices under a Government that works? Oh, no.

The list is endless. Let us content ourselves with the dynastic madness. Note the slavish mentality, the sycophancy, the flatterers' growing tribe. Mrs Gandhi seems to have lost the zest for firm government. The personality cult is now trumpeted as something that the country cannot do without. Dynasty is evidently more important than justice and democracy. After Nehru it is Indira; after Indira it was to be Sanjay. When Sanjay is no more, it must be Rajiv. The "Draft Rajiv" campaign has acquired the traits of a regular crusade. Without Rajiv, apparently, there can be no salvation of the masses. Never mind if he has no experience of politics, administration, parliamentary life, elections and other such activity. The family emblem is enough to transform a quiet raw youth into a top leader overnight.

India is an ideal country with ideal people, ideal leaders and an ideal Government.

Current National Affairs

Over-ambitious Sixth Plan

The Sixth Plan framework, presented to the National Development Council late in August, envisages a massive overall expenditure of Rs. 1,56,000 crores, including Rs. 90,000 crores for the public sector. The latter figure marks a hefty increase of Rs. 19,000 crores (27 percent more) compared to the 1978-83 Plan drawn up by the Janata Government and abandoned unceremoniously by the present Government. The increase in Plan outlay is mostly due to the inflation which is increasing, the figure for the current financial year being 20 per cent. The growth rate envisaged is 5·3 per cent.

The losses in the public sector continue. Taken together, irrigation works, State Electricity Boards and State Road Transport Undertakings incurred a loss of Rs. 1400 crores in a single year.

According to the Plan, the resource mobilisation by the Centre and the States will have to be Rs. 19,000 crores over the Plan period, the shares being Rs. 13,000 crores for the Centre and Rs. 6,000 crores for the States. The States would have to raise Rs. 2,500 crores as additional revenue in the Plan period. The uncovered gap in the Plan is Rs. 4,000 crores which may increase further by the end of the Plan period.

In her address to the Council the Prime Minister said the envisaged growth rate (5 to 5·3 per cent) was attainable, indeed inescapable to ensure the desired

pace of development. But the crux of the problem was mobilisation of resources. Mrs Gandhi would have liked a larger effort than envisaged, but "we have to be hard-hearted, hard-headed and practical." Even a Plan of this magnitude required a massive effort at resource mobilisation, which called for unpopular efforts and fiscal discipline.

The importance of accelerating the growth rate was apparent but it could only be done gradually; it should be 6 per cent in the Seventh Plan. A long-term perspective has to be kept before us as we get busy with immediate tasks. A large part of the investment in the Sixth Plan, such as for power, transport and fertiliser, will bear fruit in the Seventh Plan.

Fiscal discipline has to be restored and wasteful expenditure must be controlled. "We cannot let public sector enterprises be run inefficiently and accumulate losses. If our pricing policies are responsible for such losses, they must be immediately and properly revised. But we must guard ourselves against taxing the public for our inefficiency. There must be a parallel effort to improve the working of public sector undertakings and utilities, and to generate public savings through them for a higher order of growth", urged the Prime Minister.

The Planning Minister also called for strict fiscal discipline and financial prudence in view of the paramount need to bring inflation under control and maintain price stability.

Over-ambitious Sixth Plan

Govt. Appeal on 42nd Amendment

Efficiency Drive

Shift in Communist Parties

C'wealth Regional Summit

Economic Issues for 1980s

Foreign Money for Communal Riots?

Reorganisation of AIR and TV

Tasks for APPLE Satellite

"It is clear that we should seek the utmost economy in expenditure, whether developmental or non-developmental. We must get the best value for our money by better project planning and monitoring and by improving productivity."

While budgeting for Plan outlays, both the Central Ministries and the State Governments must make sure that any changes in the allocations did not result in the high priority sectors being deprived of funds.

Plan targets were one of the first casualties of the inflation. He outlined the magnitude of the resource mobilisation effort involved in order to finance the public sector in a non-inflationary manner. Given determination and political will, the measures outlined in the Plan frame were within the realm of feasibility. The Sixth Plan was being launched in difficult conditions. Inflation, which raised its head early last year, was "only just now showing signs of coming under control."

The situation of resource surplus that characterised the economy from 1975-76 was giving way to one of "situation scarcity". The country was once again likely to be faced with foreign exchange constraint. The adverse impact of the rising oil prices had led to a record trade deficit in 1979-80, and payments for oil and petroleum products alone amounted to Rs. 3,200 crores last year and were likely to be close to Rs. 5,000 crores in the current year.

The Plan frame reflected three major aspects of the structural adjustment that the country had to make in view of the new international environment (of increasing oil prices)—the urgent need to revive expansion of exports; reduce dependence on imports generally and on energy imports in particular, restructure investments and improve their pro-

ductivity to make both possible.

The crucial importance of promoting efficiency in the use of resources and of improving productivity in all spheres of the economy was a concern that has been given expression for the first time as one of the objectives of the Plan.

Govt. Appeal on 42nd Amendment

As expected, the Union Government has not accepted as final the verdict of the Supreme Court (delivered on May 9 last) on the validity of important sections of the 42nd Constitutional Amendment. On September 5 the Government filed an application seeking a fresh hearing in the Minerva Mills case (in which the 42nd Amendment was questioned) by a Bench of not less than seven judges.

The Government's contention is that the judgement of the five-judge Constitution Bench of the court, headed by the Chief Justice, Mr Y.V. Chandrachud, was not a collective judgement of the court but an expression of individual opinions by the judges.

The five-judge Bench had struck down Sections 4 and 55 of the 42nd Constitution amendment, holding that the powers of Parliament to amend the Constitution were not unlimited. The Union Government submitted that the majority opinion of four judges, headed by the Chief Justice and the dissenting view of Mr Justice P.N. Bhagwati, "were their individual opinions".

The contention is that there was absence of joint consideration and a free and frank discussion and exchange of views and, therefore, the orders striking down the Sections and the reasons outlined on July 31 were devoid of effect. The application filed by Government counsel stated: "The Supreme Court is a single entity. By virtue of

the rules made under the Constitution, Benches consisting of two or more judges may constitute the court. The minimum number of judges who are to sit for the purpose of deciding any case involving a substantial question of law as to the interpretation of the Constitution shall be five."

The court—the Bench constituting the court—must, therefore, act as a single body. The argument now being put forth is that there must be participation of all judges hearing the case from the commencement of the hearing till the ultimate formation of judicial opinion to be delivered which should be with the concurrence of a majority of the judges present at the hearing and it shall be delivered by the entire Bench constituting the court.

In the judgement-making process, there was no participation of Mr Justice Bhagwati. He had no opportunity of knowing and examining the reasons or the steps leading to the conclusions arrived at by the other four judges, nor had he the opportunity of apprising the other judges of the consideration and reasons which, in his opinion, justified different conclusions.

In these circumstances when there was no joint consideration and free and frank discussion and exchange of views between Mr Justice Bhagwati on the one hand and the four other judges, including the Chief Justice, on the other hand, the opinions delivered on May 9 and the reasons set out on July 31 were not those of the court but only those of individual judges and they were completely devoid of effect.

The claim that the Supreme Court had the jurisdiction to pronounce on the validity of constitutional provisions even though such a question had not arisen and was taken up at the

Invitation of a party not affected by the impunged constitutional provision, was without any precedent and untenable, said the Government. This would make the Supreme Court not only the supreme judiciary to adjudicate issues arising before it but the guardian of the legislative activities of Parliament.

The case Waman Rao Vs Union of India was heard earlier than the Minerva Mills case. The Chief Justice and Mr Justice Bhagwati were common to the two five-judge Benches. In the former case, the courts had held that inconsistency with or the taking away or abridgement of the rights conferred by Articles 14, 19 or 31 (Fundamental Rights) did not make a law falling within Article 31(A) and 31(C) (before amendment) void. The majority opinion in the latter case also decided on the same day.

The Government has contended that the concept and content of the inviolable basic structure of the Constitution was different, although in either case the law was in obedience to the mandate in Part IV (Directive Principles) of the Constitution. On September 10 the Supreme Court adjourned the hearing to a later date.

Efficiency Drive

In an apparent bid to counter the charge that the administration is ineffective, tardy and inefficient, and that indiscipline is growing, the Prime Minister launched at the end of August a drive to streamline the working of various departments. A circular also asked Ministers not to interfere with matters falling under the jurisdiction of other ministries.

In a communication to all Ministers Mrs Indira Gandhi also asked them to ensure greater efficiency in the performance of the Central Government staff.

She asked them to periodically assess the standard of efficiency in their ministries.

They should ensure punctuality by the employees and assess their output, not in terms of paper work but in terms of the results achieved by them. Each individual employee's work should be assessed in respect of his output and earnestness. The Ministers should identify the priority areas and have the schemes implemented according to a time-bound programme.

The Prime Minister said mutual problems of ministries, particularly in matters like coal and railways, should be settled in the Cabinet Committee on infrastructure, rather than through notes to each other or to the Prime Minister.

Earlier, the Prime Minister had told her cabinet colleagues that she was not happy with the general performance of the Government. She had said that power generation, coal and steel production and wagon movement, which fell under the purview of the public sector, needed considerable improvement. Without this, no economic growth was possible. She had virtually given a warning that they should either perform or quit.

The Prime Minister had also asked the Union Ministers and the Chief Ministers to resist political pressures brought on them to secure transfers of officers. She reminded them that transfers recommended by members of Parliament, legislators and the public could prove embarrassing to the Government. Such transfers should be ordered only when found expedient and in the administrative interest.

Several ministries have launched a campaign to ensure punctuality in offices. The administrative staff has been asked to go round offices to see that the employees from the highest

to the lowest rung attend offices punctually.

Experience shows, however, that such circulars and directives have only a temporary effect and the staff soon resume their tardy and bureaucratic ways.

Shift in Communist Parties

There has been important developments among the country's Communists. A new party, called the All-India Communist Party, has been formed by the pro-Dange group. This group, in line with the familiar pro-Mrs Gandhi policy pursued for years by Mr S.A. Dange, is expected to actively align itself with the Congress(I). The formation of a parallel C.P.I. early in September conforms to the trend towards a split and form a parallel body rather than merger. Meanwhile, the two Communist parties, CPI-M and the main CPI, are closer today than at any time since the 1964 split, according to top leaders of the two parties.

These leaders believe the improved understanding was the result of joint efforts to build Left and democratic unity. Where they still differed in important ideological, international and national issues, the parties have achieved a working relationship on specific problems facing the masses.

There were no serious differences between them in their assessment of the current political situation in the country. Their working unity is reflected in the exchange of views between leaders of the two parties and in the Joint Action Committees set up in several States, including Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Rajasthan and Delhi. The cadres and the rank and file of the two parties work together in many States on issues like price rise and communal riots.

The unity efforts have led to a split in the CPI. A group of

party members that owe loyalty to former chairman S.A. Dange has raised the standard of revolt against the party's line of building Left and democratic unity in close alliance with the CPI-M.

The fight within the CPI, which started before the January Lok Sabha elections, came into the open after the party's National Council decided to accept Mr Dange's resignation from the party chairmanship. Several members resigned from the party to form the All-India Communist Party, which they described as the "genuine" CPI. Mrs Roza Deshpande, daughter of Mr Dange, became President of the new party.

The new party opposes the CPI's alliance with the CPI-M and its line of general opposition to Mrs Indira Gandhi's Government and the Congress-I. It was for pursuing a line of "unity and struggle" with the Congress-I and the Government.

In the last few weeks, sections of CPI members in West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh and some other States have joined Mrs Deshpande's party. The largest number of resignations were from West Bengal, where about 6,000 members, said to constitute a fifty of the total CPI membership in the State, joined the new party. Mrs Deshpande's group now plans to hold a foundation conference in October.

The main difference between the CPI-M and CPI on international issues relates to the stand on China. The CPI thinks that the Chinese leadership has become a partner of the United States in its axis against the Soviet Union and bitterly attacks China for its present policies.

The CPI-M has also criticised the Chinese alliance with the US but it does not want to condemn the Chinese Communist Party any further. It takes the stand that the Chinese leadership would change in the future.

The CPI-M leadership feels that the days of a monolithic world communist movement are over. Each Communist Party may hold views which may be different from those of other brother parties.

The CPI-M has not hesitated to criticise China for its alliance with the US and its stand against the Soviet Union. But it also believes that the Soviet Union has to reassess its stand towards the Chinese Communist Party.

C'wealth Regional Summit

Dominated as it was by small entities, often described as "mere specks on the wide Asian and Pacific horizon", the Commonwealth Heads of Government regional conference (CHOGRM-II), held in Delhi from September 4 to 8 attended by 16 countries, ensured some goodwill and opened up prospects of co-operation in the economic sphere. The long communique issued after the talks avoided all controversial stands and confined itself to generalisations without treading on any participant's toes. Mrs Gandhi herself admitted that differences in perception over the causes of the crisis in Afghanistan and Kampuchea persisted.

She and the Commonwealth Secretary-General, Mr S.S. Ramphal, gave the impression that the quest among the CHOGRM participants was for "areas of agreement" and that this had manifested itself in the communique with the call for the withdrawal of "foreign forces" from Kampuchea and a peaceful political settlement in Afghanistan. The communique's formulations on Afghanistan and Kampuchea were more or less identical in that they envisaged a situation in the future where both countries could determine their own destiny free from foreign interference and intervention.

India forcefully defended her position on Kampuchea when she recalled that even over the question of Vietnam in the past India happened to be almost alone in its assessment. Ultimately, however, the Indian view had prevailed. After all, Mr Heng Samrin appeared to be in control over a major part of the country and this was the justification for the Indian recognition of his regime. Effective control was one of the norms for recognition.

Broadly, the communique set out the position of the Commonwealth Heads of Government on the global and regional political trends in these terms: there had been great deterioration in the overall situation but differences should be resolved by peaceful means. The use of force in international relations and of intervention and interference in the internal affairs of States was inadmissible. In relation to Afghanistan, it called for de-escalation of tensions and warned that in the absence of a political settlement "big-power" confrontation would be unavoidable. It expressed full support for the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-aligned status of Afghanistan.

On Kampuchea it sought a "comprehensive political solution" to the problem "which would ensure the sovereignty, independence and neutrality of Kampuchea." It went on to say that heads of State Governments were "convinced" of the need for the withdrawal of foreign forces from that country. They were also convinced of the necessity to create a climate of peace and security in Kampuchea which would enable the people of that country to determine their future destiny free from outside interference.

There was, naturally, unanimity on certain issues—the Indian Ocean, the zone of peace, freedom neutrality in the

South East Asian region, the South Pacific, Zimbabwe and West Asia.

There was no question of discussing or recommending conditions for the Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan. The Soviets had said that they wanted to withdraw. The Commonwealth effort was to persuade them to do so. It was evident that efforts by all countries, including India, would continue.

They noted with concern that protectionism was on the increase, particularly against the labour-intensive or lower-cost exports of countries of the region. Most developing countries had severe balance of repayments problems and needed to expand export opportunities for their competitive products in order to pay for their imports, mainly from developed countries.

The participants agreed to work together in support of efforts to secure better access for their products in the major consuming countries. They agreed to support any international action for the encouragement and monitoring of positive adjustment policies. They felt that positive adjustment policies and the dissemination of information on the advantages of free trade could greatly help Governments to resist political pressures for protectionism.

In the context of the adverse balance of payments positions, they felt there was urgent need to immediately augment the flow of financial resources on sustained concessional terms and on a predictable long-term basis. The conference welcomed India's suggestion to make available training facilities in Indian institutions to scientific and technical personnel from other countries, to supply proto-types of devices for the utilisation of renewable energies and to make available the services of specia-

lists. The participants wanted new initiatives for the wider utilisation of renewable energy technologies, including technology transfer on mutually beneficial terms.

Economic Issues for 1980s

In a note to the Commonwealth Heads of Government Conference held in Delhi India sought concerted, time-bound measures to survive the overwhelming strains of the global economic crisis.

Entitled "The Economic Issue for the Eighties", the note said all possible initiatives and approaches, which result in concrete agreements and building of confidence among nations, needed to be encouraged. For agreements to be effective, the decisions must be based on consensus which should result in necessary structural changes in the world economy, besides meeting the medium and long-term requirements of the developing countries.

The note stressed that in the Asia and Pacific region, where the populous, low-income countries were located, particular attention would need to be given to food problems in the eighties. Adequate arrangements for the supply of fertilisers and pesticides to low-income countries required to be made and assistance should be forthcoming for augmenting irrigation facilities to help the countries achieve self-sufficiency in food.

The other high priority items for these countries during the eighties would be the harmonisation of the objectives of environmental improvement and economic development, according to the note. It said that environmental management should be made an integral part of the development planning process and a mutual exchange of experience should be encouraged in this important field.

The note expected the development of greater maturity in international relations and anticipated that, as a consequence, thinking in the eighties would shift from the political to the economic plane. It expected CHOGRM-II to place an accent on economic and technical co-operation.

The note referred to "the remarkable political will" of the developing countries to strengthen mutual co-operation in order to increase their collective self-reliance and said that it could improve their bargaining power and status in negotiations with the developed countries. It also made special mention of the fact that developed countries had indicated their support to such a movement for self-reliance.

While these were some of the positive aspects of the developments, the note did not ignore the recession in the "spirit of internationalism" which has begun to assume serious proportions and said the tendency for many developed countries to look inwards could be ominous. This new "isolationism" was dangerous in its implications not only for the future world economy but for world political stability and durable peace as well.

The Indian delegation called for "adequate response" from the international community to the threatened world economic crisis of "unparalleled dimensions".

Such a response should include not only mechanisms for improvement of the balance of payments deficits of the oil-importing countries but also provision of adequate financial support to them to help restructure their economies.

The memorandum notes that the world economy presents a grim scenario, with a dangerous slow-down in output, a high

rate of inflation, a deceleration in world trade and a consequent acute impact on the balance of trade and payments positions of oil-importing countries.

Foreign Money for Communal Riots?

Foreign money not only plays a role in Indian elections and other facets of politics but also in creating communal trouble. Confirming this belief in Delhi at the end of August, Sheikh Abdullah, the Kashmir Chief Minister, said the widely-held belief that foreign money, mainly from the oil-rich Arab countries, was being misused to "foment trouble" not only in Kashmir but in other parts of the country as well, was not baseless.

It was a known fact that some countries had been pouring money into India, ostensibly for religious purposes, which was, at least in part, being misused by certain anti-national elements to create trouble. The Sheikh, however, refused to identify the countries concerned. Answering a number of questions on the recent disturbances in the country and the trouble in his own State earlier, Sheikh Abdullah said it was not unlikely that Pakistan too might be wanting to fish in the troubled waters here.

Regarding the activities of the Jamaat-e-Islami in Kashmir the Chief Minister said it was getting money from oil-rich West Asian countries. It would not be unlikely if Pakistan also helped the Jamaat whose activities were not conducive to peace and harmony.

He hotly contested the view that pro-Pakistan elements in the State had widened their base. While some such pro-Pakistan elements may be there, the vast majority of the people were opposed to Pakistan.

Asked if Pakistan was preparing for another armed intervention in Kashmir, the Chief Minister replied: "I cannot say but we must not be complacent. We must remain prepared to defend ourselves. But I think Pakistan is too much involved in its own affairs."

To a Pakistani journalist's question if the Kashmir problem could ever be resolved within the terms of the Simla agreement, Sheikh Abdullah replied it could be solved provided good sense prevails. "We must build bridges and a proper atmosphere." The objective of getting back the Pakistan-occupied Kashmir could be achieved by war or negotiations could be held on the basis of the Simla Agreement. When and how, depended on the state of relations between India and Pakistan.

In his view, Islamic fundamentalism was a manifestation of super Power rivalry with one Power feeling it could utilise religion to down the other.

The Sheikh could not say whether Pakistan had supplied the arms which were recently seized in Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and elsewhere.

Reorganisation of AIR and TV

Important structural changes in All India Radio and Doordarshan (TV) are envisaged by the Government of India, which is apparently dissatisfied with the current performance of the two media. Perhaps the Government wants to ensure more official propaganda. It proposes to appoint a high-level committee to suggest structural changes in All India Radio and Doordarshan to bring about greater professionalism in the two organisations and make them an effective tool for national development.

Mr Vasant Sathe, Information and Broadcasting Minister, disclosed on September 5 that

the Government was in the midst of separating All India Radio and Doordarshan to provide for rapid growth of the two media. Steps were also afoot to give them more functional freedom to achieve the basic objective of broadcasting i.e., serving the people with better and more attractive programmes.

Outlining the role of All India Radio in a democratic set-up, the Minister referred to the basic objective of any Government—to serve the people, to help the people to help themselves, and take the country forward. The official media must help and not copy values which would be wrong in a developing country. The official media, therefore, had an obligation to provide information and to build up motivation in support of national programmes and policies.

Radio could play a vital role in building up self-confidence of the people and forge national unity. Radio, by its very nature, had to be different from the newspapers which often gave prominence to the negative aspects. There were so many good things happening in the country, in the field of industry, art and literature. Radio had to strike a balance and also present the positive side to build up confidence among the people.

Grievances of the people in a situation of shortages and bottlenecks should be projected in a positive and constructive way.

According to Mr A.K. Dutt, Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, AIR and Doordarshan had a greater responsibility than the newspapers, which had a limited reach. The Press had a restricted clientele whereas the official media were to cater to all sections of the people, even in remote villages. The Government had a responsibility under the Constitution to do something for the welfare
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Current International Affairs

Political Shake-up in China

Important political changes have taken place in China during the past few weeks. These mark a shift of power to another group of leaders. Following the resignation of Mr Hua Guofeng, Mr Zhao Ziyang, described officially as a "very talented man" has taken over as the Prime Minister of China. Mr Ziyang was one of the Vice-Premiers under Hua's Premiership. Other far-reaching changes in Government affected five Vice-Premiers. Mr Deng Xiaoping, Mr Li Xiannian, Mr Chen Yun, Mr Wang Zhen and Mr Xiangquian, who is also Defence Minister, have given up their Government posts while maintaining their posts in the Communist Party. Mr Hua himself has retained the Communist Party Chairmanship, the most important position in China. A few tattered posters on a wall in an out-of-the way park in western Beijing is all that is left of the poster campaigns on the Democracy Wall before it was closed by the authorities late last year.

But even the small number left will disappear soon when the National People's Congress passes an amendment to the Constitution abolishing the right of citizens to express their views in so-called "big character posters".

The Communist Party proposed the amendment earlier this year, reflecting the impatience of China's leaders with the often outspoken criticism found in posters on the Democ-

racy Wall, now covered with advertising bill-boards.

The original Democracy Wall, on one of Beijing's main thoroughfares, became the centre and symbol of a new upsurge in outspokenness by ordinary Chinese people, from late in 1978. A year later, however, the authorities decided that the free political comment in the posters was unacceptable, and had the wall scrubbed.

The Constitutional amendment will delete one sentence from Article 45 so as to abolish the right of citizens to "speak out freely, air their views fully, hold great debates and write big-character posters." However, citizens still, according to the Constitution, enjoy freedom of speech, correspondence, Press, assembly and association.

The Communist Party's Central Committee proposed the amendment on the ground that posters had been misused by many people for revolutionary or counter-revolutionary ends and also to libel others.

China Changes Policy

Significant changes of policy and in national laws have taken place in China. On September 2 a new citizenship law was unveiled before China's National People's Congress (Parliament) banning dual nationality in what appeared to be primarily a foreign policy move. Mr Peng Zhen, a Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the Congress, said "no dual nationality will be recognised for any Chinese national."

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He said many overseas Chinese had hoped they would be able to retain Chinese citizenship. But the Government had decided to ban it to facilitate good relations between China and other countries. Mr Peng said, however, the law would allow Chinese wishing to return to their motherland to regain their citizenship.

China is also revising a 1950 law which sets the age of marriage at 20 for the men and 18 for women. Under the new law the age will be raised to 20 for women and 22 for men. The marriage law will also require couples to practise family planning. China now insists on one-child families in order to control its population.

The Draft Law also makes divorce more difficult. According to the 1950 law, still in effect, divorce was granted if one party demanded it and mediation failed.

In the economic field, Mr Peng announced a 33% income-tax on foreign Chinese joint ventures and individual income-tax of 5% to 45% for the first time since the Communist take-over. Individual income-tax will be levied on that part of a person's monthly wages that exceed \$ 547. That rules out most of the Chinese, according to Mr Peng, because only about 20 Chinese earn more than \$ 547 a month and most of the 20 are artists and entertainers. The senior Vice-Premier, Mr Deng Xiaoping is said to earn only about \$ 273 a month.

The new law also provides preferential tax treatment for those who reinvest their profits in China. If they reinvest for five years or more, they may receive a refund of 40% of the tax on the reinvested amount.

Another economic reform is permission to start small private enterprises and individual trade but die-hard critics still denounce mom-and-pop shops

and one-man noodle stands as "capitalist tails" which should be cut off.

Liberalisation and modernisation are the notable trends of the new leaders' policy.

Accord on Law of Sea

Nearly seven years of sometimes bitter, usually tedious talks for a treaty on the use of the seas and their resources have produced a consensus on a range of topics.

Meeting in five-week or six-week sessions, the U.N. Conference on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) had thrice revised a lengthy negotiating text which is regarded as the basis of a comprehensive treaty.

Issues declared settled and entered into the negotiations text, now entitled an "informal draft convention", include: establishing a 20-mile limit on territorial seas; allowing coastal States a 320-mile offshore, "Exclusive Economic Zone" in which they could retain sovereign control of resources (land-locked and other States in the region being allowed a share of the fishing in the Exclusive Economic Zones), providing for unimposed transit through straits used for international navigation (aircraft flight patterns being included in this provision).

It is almost certain that there will be an agreed text of a treaty on an international maritime regime by the time the UNCLOS holds its tenth and final session in March, 1981. The basis for this hope is the agreement between rich and poor nations over the vexed question of sharing the enormous mineral wealth of the sea-bed and the ocean floor which has so far been the main cause of the discord at the nine successive sessions of UNCLOS.

The self-renewing nodules, consisting mainly of manganese, cobalt, nickel and copper, lying around in the dark abyss out-

side national jurisdictions even after each coastal State has a 200-mile Exclusive Economic Zone, are very rich. But only a handful of advanced countries, led by the U.S.A. but including the Soviet Union and Japan, have the capacity and requisite technology to mine the depths.

The two sides have found a workable basis for sharing the profits from sea-bed mining between private mining companies having a monopoly of the technology to retrieve the mineral wealth and the rest of the world which believes that this wealth be treated as the "collective heritage of mankind". An international sea-bed authority alone would authorise the mining of nodules both for private profit and on behalf of the world community as a whole.

Nuclear Powers' Conference Fails

Owing to a clash of interests, the U.N. Conference reviewing the progress of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty wound up in disagreement in Geneva on September 6, despite a solemn warning by its Iraqi President that a failure of the talks would do considerable damage to the cause of world peace.

Mr Ismat Kittani, who chaired the four-week, 75-nation meeting, told a plenary session that the process of trying to agree on a consensus on a final document had come to an end.

The conference may not meet again, perhaps for 12 months, as a "pause for reflection", to avoid official admission of a breakdown. The talks which hoped to produce a sort of "good health certificate" for the 10-year-old treaty and its implementation, hit a deadlock over what the U.S.A. and other Western delegates, termed "unrealistic demands" by several Third World countries plus Sweden to commit the nuclear

Powers to disarmament measures.

A U.S. delegation source contended that a "virtually intransigent" position of a few non-aligned countries (understood to include specifically Yugoslavia and Mexico) prevented any agreement.

The major issue at the talks was the continuing nuclear arms race. The three nuclear depository States—the U.S.A., Russia and Britain—have pledged under the treaty to take effective measures towards disarmament.

Third World delegates charged the "haves" that these commitments were not honoured. They called for an immediate ban on all nuclear testing and they also insisted that the U.S. and Soviet assurances in the "final documents" to abide by the SALT-II treaty should be ratified.

Before hitting this road-block, the conference members agreed on a safeguards package for non-proliferation. The package includes a cord on international plutonium storage, technical and financial incentives for non-nuclear countries to join the 1968 treaty, and agreement on physical protection for transporting fissionable material.

Arms Expenditure: World Record

The world's expenditure on armaments is about to reach a fantastic level—600 billion dollars in the 1980s. This year it has already gone up to 500 billion, marking a 10% increase over last year's level of 460 billion. The trends are indeed ominous. The hypocrisy of disarmament talks and peace treaties is apparent.

In 1960 and 1970, by contrast, the yearly average expenditure for military purposes (worldwide) was \$ 370 billion adjusted to the 1979 price levels.

These are among the major findings of "World Military and Social Expenditures", a yearly review of comparative government spending, released in Washington on September 5.

The rise in world military spending last year exceeded the pace of inflation for the eighth year in a row, the report said, adding: "Despite the critical need to develop new and less expensive sources of energy to increase lagging industrial productivity and to combat inflation, governments are spending eight times as much for research on new weapons as they do on solving energy problems. The net effect of this imbalance in resource allocation is to further undermine the already demonstrably fragile world economy, making it even more difficult in the future to meet the basic needs of a rapidly expanding global population."

In a foreword to the review, Mr Henry W. Kendall, Chairman of the board of the Union of Concerned Scientists, writes: "A half dozen nations now possess nuclear explosives. As many again may acquire them in the near future. And a substantial portion of the weapons slated to be added to the tens of thousands now in the world inventories will be placed in the missile systems capable of delivering nuclear first strikes."

"World Military and Social Expenditures" says no indicator more graphically shows the incredible destructive power that is loose in the world than the spread and numbers of nuclear weapons, now over 50,000 of them. The steadily increase in the speed, accuracy and ability to destroy civilisation. While military budgets went up, living standards declined. Worldwide prices rose faster, energy supplies were tighter, more people were unemployed.

More lived without adequate food, clean water and the mini-

mum essentials of civilised living. There are now an estimated 25 million people in the world's regular military forces, seven million more than in 1960.

Para-military and reservist forces are at least twice as numerous as the regulars. Civilians directly employed by the military, and those working on weapons research, production or related activities, bring to over 100 million the number of people paid directly or indirectly by defence ministries.

The review also made these points: The ever-rising flood of arms in international trade reflects two of the most dangerous aspects of recent military trends—the movement of sophisticated weapons and technology throughout the developing world and the role of governments in the industrialised nations in aiding and abetting the proliferation.

Six nations are known to be capable of producing nuclear weapons. It is estimated that 18 others have these weapons stationed on their soil or provide bases for the planes and ships that transport them. With a stockpile of nuclear weapons one million times the destructive power of the Hiroshima bomb, the two superpowers are still investing well over \$ 100 million per day to upgrade their nuclear arsenals!

World War Inevitable?

There is talk once again of a world war, at any rate by Chinese leaders, presumably as a reaction to inter-Power rivalries. The most outspoken in this regard is the Chinese Vice-Premier, Mr Deng Xiaoping, who said on September 2 that the power of the United States is declining and a third world war "is inevitable", possibly within the next 10 years.

"The war is inevitable because the Super Powers exist

and their imperialism exists", Mr Deng said in an interview published in "The Washington Post". The next 10 years are very, very dangerous. They are frightful. We should never forget this fact.

Mr Deng warned that the war could begin "almost anywhere", but said West Asia and Indochina were the most likely trouble-spots. After the World War II and the conflicts in Korea and Vietnam, the U.S. forces have heavily declined and the U.S.A. has been retreating. Now America is on the defensive and let's face it: America fears the Soviet Union. He felt that war will burst, sooner or later, and whoever believes the contrary makes a tragic mistake. Soviet Union's stock of atomic bombs and nuclear weapons is unbelievable now, and the conventional weapons pile up in their warehouses.... sooner or later they will be used.

Mr Deng conceded that the 1966 Cultural Revolution was "civil war" in which countless Chinese had died. The late Chairman Mao Tse-tung made mistakes in the latter part of his life. He said the chief mistake was the Cultural Revolution, the period when many of the party's more pragmatic leaders were removed from power by ideological purists with Mao's blessings.

Nominated Council for Pak

In a bid to satisfy the political aspiration of a large section of the people of Pakistan, especially after he had indefinitely cancelled general elections in the country, General Zia-ul-Haque, the Chief Martial Law Administrator, is reported to have drawn up a plan to constitute a nominated legislature. The proposed Federal Council would help give a civilian touch to the ruthless military regime.

The 250-strong legislature would probably consist of lead-

ing figures from professions, some leaders of outlawed political parties and a few noted journalists.

The Council would make laws and debate Government policies, and its members would be entitled to privileges of MPs. The nominees to the Council have already been selected and their names are expected to be announced soon. In August, General Zia-ul-Haque had told a convention of religious leaders on Islamisation of Pakistan that he would announce plans to fill the present "political vacuum", after some time. The future political set-up, he had said, would be fully in conformity with Islam. But he had no intention of forming a political party of his own.

Several outlawed political parties, as also professional groups, particularly lawyers, have repeatedly demanded restoration of democracy and elections. Holding conventions in defiance of martial law ban on political activity at various places, they have threatened to launch agitations, but as yet there are no visible signs of unified action on their part.

United Front: The four banned political parties of Pakistan have agreed to form a United Front to press their demand for restoration of democracy in the country. They urged that the Pakistan President lift martial law and Press censorship and transfer power to an interim Government and hold general elections. A spokesman of the Front, which includes the Pakistan People's Party of former President Bhutto, said it would consult other parties before presenting their demands.

Gen Zia (in October last year) banned all political parties, imposed Press Censorship, cancelled general elections and clamped martial law.

Pindi Exploiting Riots: As the demand for holding elections

threatens to explode into a mass movement, the military regime in Pakistan has been trying to exploit the recent riots in India to divert the attention of its people.

The Tehrik-i-Istiqlal and the National Democratic Party held conventions recently disregarding the Government's ban on political parties and meetings. Both demanded that elections be held and called for the removal of Gen Zia's regime.

Slogans in favour of Socialism and against Islam have reportedly appeared on city walls and the English daily "Muslim", in a front-page report, complained that pork was sold openly in Islamabad during the holy month of Ramzan. Against this background, the Government-owned and rightist papers used the riots in India to rally the nation behind President Zia.

Even before the Moradabad riots a section of the press had been trying to whip up anti-India hysteria, picking on the clashes between the army and a mob in Kashmir and Mrs Indira Gandhi's statement on August 7 suspecting Pakistan's intentions *vis-a-vis* its nuclear programme.

An article in "Mashriq" claimed that the riots had once again proved that the two-nation theory was correct. The Government-owned "Pakistan Times" wrote: "If there had been no Pakistan, we who live here enjoying the fruits of freedom and holding our heads high, would have met the same fate as the unfortunate Indian Muslims." But on September 10 the Pakistan Government admitted that the press had exaggerated the reports of riots.

Another Summit on W. Asia

The prolonged deadlock in Arab-Israeli relations may soon be resolved. President Carter disclosed on September 4 that Egypt and Israel would resume

negotiations for peace within weeks and both had agreed to a new Camp David-style summit meeting later this year.

Mr Carter made the announcement after talking by telephone to his special West Asia envoy, Mr Sol Linowitz. Israel and Egypt broke off the peace talks last month to protest against a new Israeli law which declared all of Jerusalem to be the country's eternal capital.

After a 50-minute meeting with President Sadat, Mr Linowitz read a statement saying the two countries had agreed to resume their suspended talks on Palestinian autonomy at a mutually agreed date. An Egyptian official stated the statement "seems to mean that talks will continue to remove obstacles to re-starting the autonomy negotiations."

In Washington the State Department said no date had been given for resuming the negotiations.

After breaking off the autonomy negotiations in August Mr Sadat had suggested a cooling-off period and postponement of negotiations until after a summit of Israeli, Egyptian and U.S. leaders later this year. There was nothing in the statement released by Mr Linowitz to suggest that Egypt had shifted its stand. But it appeared Mr Linowitz's mission had persuaded Israel to take part in another summit.

Mr Linowitz had said on arrival in Cairo he had brought new ideas from his meetings with Mr Begin and other Israeli leaders. The new ideas seemed to be Mr Begin's agreement to attend a new summit.

trans-national corporations and that the super-rich should pay a special tax to help the poor and developing countries.

Speaking at the 11th special session of the United Nations General Assembly, he said thousands of foreign nationals, particularly from the developing world, were employed in different parts of the world and they generally pay income-tax to the host Government only. A percentage of this tax should be returned to the country of the foreign nationals.

General Zia said a substantial part of the income derived from the extraction of minerals from the seabed should also go to the developing countries. The special levies should feed a World Development Fund as suggested by the Willy Brandt Commission, which would be responsible for proper allocation and utilisation of resources for the benefit of the poor and developing countries. A comprehensive reorganisation of international institutions, including the U.N. and its specialized agencies like the IMF and IBRD, was also necessary for introducing a new international economic order.

Referring to the energy crisis dogging the entire world, the President said OPEC should effect a 50% reduction in the price of its oil to help the least developed nations solve their problems. The OPEC should also invest a part of their resources in the developing countries to offset the adverse impact of the rising crude prices. In this context, Gen Zia suggested the formation of an international consortium to help the poor countries tap and develop new energy sources.

He also called for a massive transfer of resources from the developed world to the developing nations through taxation of international trade and arms expenditure and said Official

Development Assistance (ODA) to the latter should be doubled.

Pakistan's Nuclear Feat

Pakistan has ensured major achievements in nuclear technology by manufacturing its own nuclear fuel (uranium rods) through conversion of natural uranium. Although India had made this achievement seven years ago, Pakistan has followed suit in a shorter time through Canada's assistance. This is further evidence of Pakistan's determination to become a nuclear power.

The Western Press have for quite some time carried write-ups on Pakistan's attempts to make its own enriched uranium using the centrifuge process; the success or otherwise of this effort is still clouded in secrecy.

Though Pakistan has been claiming that its nuclear programme is for peaceful purposes, it is well known that for a Tarapur-type nuclear reactor, only three per cent enrichment is needed and the high enrichment level being attempted by Pakistan is not necessary for the peaceful part of the programme it is known to have. The Pakistanis are reported to be trying both the plutonium way and the uranium way to an explosive device.

The Pakistani success in building natural uranium fuel rods is no mean achievement. It involved extracting uranium metal from ores of extremely low concentration (around 0.06 per cent), purifying the metal and its conversion into precisely shaped pellets which are then packed in zirconium pins and the pin bundles further encased in tubes, also made of zirconium. It appears that Pakistan did not obtain help from abroad to get the rare and costly metals like zirconium. They also seem to have built a fuels complex for this purpose.

Call for Tax on Multinationals

The Bangladesh President, Mr Ziaur Rahman, suggested at the end of August that special levies should be imposed on

The natural uranium fuel is for use in reactors with heavy water as moderator and coolant. Part of the fuel is converted into plutonium in the process of neutron flux. Pakistan was reported to be building a plutonium extraction plant from spent fuel rods with French help, but this was blocked by U.S. pressure on France.

Pakistanis are still dependent heavily on foreign help in many aspects of their nuclear programme, while in the CANDU-type atomic reactor India is largely self-sufficient now; it has also its own reprocessing plants, one at Trombay, the other at Tarapur and the third under construction at Kalpakkam.

Indian experiments in building its own plutonium-uranium oxide fuels and in using thorium for the reactors are progressing fast.

Pakistan buys More Jets

Pakistan continues to strengthen its Army and Air force, despite occasional denials. It has bought 32 more French "Mirage-A" fighter-bombers at a cost of \$ 330 million and will be receiving them shortly, according to an Islamabad report published in the Washington Post on September 5.

Pakistan has already about 65 Mirages, some of which are interceptors and others either reconnaissance planes or fighter-bombers. The Pakistan Air Force is said to have a total of 256 million combat aircraft and most of them are jet fighters. The fleet has about 140 Chinese-made Mig-19s equipped with Sidewinder missiles and used as interceptors.

The U.S.A. has been urging Pakistan to buy the F-5E as replacement for the F-86. It believes the F-5E plane would do well as the interceptor against the Soviet-made Mig-21 which India has. However, Pakistan,

according to the report, would prefer to skip several generations of combat aircraft and acquire the F-15 and the F-16.

There have been reports in the Western Press that Pakistan is seeking financial assistance from Saudi Arabia to rebuild its armed forces. In return, it will agree to station Pakistani troops in the desert kingdom to improve its security. The amount mentioned is about \$ 750 million. The U.S.A. reportedly supports the proposal.

Arms under false claim: Islamabad cites the "Communist threat" every time it wants to acquire more Western weapons for achieving its designs against other countries; for instance, India, according to the Soviet newspaper, "Pravda".

In the 1970s, Pakistan received the lion's share of armaments which were supplied to the South Asian sub-continent. Modern American weapons are being delivered to that country often with Saudi Arabia acting as an intermediary, according to Soviet sources.

The military administration is simultaneously increasing the numerical strength of its police force. Islamabad's line gives rise to legitimate concern in neighbouring countries, especially in India, which believes that Pakistan has become an integral part of the strategic U.S.-Chinese alliance spear-headed against Afghanistan, the Soviet Union and India.

Burma's Balancing Act

Burma, which has performed a balancing act between the Super Powers and steered clear of bloc groupings and spheres of influence for more than three decades, does not intend to change its course, according to official and diplomatic sources, who explained their country's policy on August 29.

The recent visit to Rangoon of Singapore's Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Sinnathamby Rajaratnam, and Thailand's Prime Minister, Mr Prem Tinsulanond, started speculation that Burma might be drawing closer to the non-Communist Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), which groups Singapore and Thailand with Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines.

However, Burmese officials maintain that while the visits were useful for promoting friendly bilateral relations and for exchanging views on regional and international situations, they had not changed Burma's long-standing character as a non-joiner.

"We should like to see Burma inside ASEAN, or moving closer to ASEAN, but it would be out of character for it to do so", one Rangoon-based senior ASEAN diplomat said recently.

Burmese officials might say from time to time that its views and those of other nations of ASEAN "coincide" on a given issue, but they would think twice before saying their views were "identical" or "similar". To Burmese officials, this is not merely semantic hair-splitting. It stems from a deep-seated and well-considered desire not to be identified with any country or grouping.

Diplomats say Burma is likely to stay away from regional groupings while maintaining and promoting friendly bilateral relations with both ASEAN countries and Indo-China States.

President Ne Win stated Burma's position in 1965 and has practiced it as policy ever since in the following words: It is not possible for a nation to remain isolated.....We will fraternise with others on a basis of equality.

Syria-Libya Merger

President Hafez Assad on September 2 agreed to merge Syria with Col Moammar Gaddafi's Libya to strengthen Arab defences against Israel. This is interpreted as another demonstrative bid to display solidarity through integration into a single entity.

Mr Assad's agreement was made in a telegram despatched to Col Gaddafi soon after the Libyan leader called for the merger as the "last trench of Arab defence against the Zionist enemy."

"The Syrian people and myself were deeply moved by your unity appeal", Mr Assad told Col Gaddafi in the telegram that was broadcast by Syria's State radio. "This unity appeal has struck an immediate response amongst us."

The merger move appears largely meaningless because the two countries are geographically far apart. The ruling governments have different political systems and ideologies. Libya

is a theocracy, run despotically under broad Islamic principles. Syria considers itself secular. Both countries have good relations with the Soviet Union. Both countries are vocally at war with Israel, but neither is too happy with the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

The dilemma of these so-called "revolutionary" Arab nations is that they can neither come to terms with Israel, nor are they in a position to fight Israel militarily, singly or collectively. Libya, led by Gaddafi, may be trying to prevent Syria from getting entangled with the Soviet Union.

A formal announcement of the Union was made on September 10. The two States will become one unit with a single Government and "revolutionary Congress" (common Parliament). But the chances of the new Union proving a success are very limited. Similar unions in the Middle East (one effort included Egypt) in the past broke down after a few months.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS (Contd. from page 145)

of the people. The two media should not function as a propaganda machine. They had to build up their credibility and establish a reputation which other broadcasting organisations like BBC enjoyed.

The recommendations of the Verghese Committee are being examined and it is hoped that the measures taken as a result of these deliberations would contribute to more professionalism and efficiency in the working of the media.

Tasks for APPLE Satellite

Tracking railway wagons and regulating their movement through a communication network linked with the Ariana Passengers Payload Experiment

(APPLE) satellite to be launched in February, 1981, are being worked out by the Space Applications Centre (SAC) in Ahmedabad and the Indian Railways.

Mr B.S. Bhatia, in charge of the software experiment of the APPLE project, disclosed on September 4 that the data-exchange facilities of the satellite were also proposed to be utilised for railway passenger reservations in large cities on an experimental basis.

The data-exchange facility would also enable setting up of a national inter-library information system in collaboration with Jawaharlal Nehru University and the Institute of Mass Communications for pooling data on social sciences and communications.

SAC also proposes to start a "national class room" for post-graduate engineering students of all the five Indian Institutes of Technology (I.I.T.s) and their neighbourhood educational institutes on subjects related to space electronics and communication.

Under the scheme, the student participants in all the five centres, Delhi, Kanpur, Kharagpur, Madras and Bombay—would be given televised lectures by experts drawn from the IITs, Posts and Telegraphs and SAC. After the end of each one-hour programme the lecturer would be available for answering questions from the students sitting at different centres.

APPLE having a geo-synchronous orbit and both video and audio capabilities, could be used for setting up a national communication channel on an experimental basis which could later be expanded and integrated into a full-fledged network when India's first operational communications satellite INSAT-I is launched in 1982.

By conducting a vast range of experiments in the field of communications with the help of APPLE, along with reception equipment like the Emergency Communication Terminal (ECT) or Small Communication Terminal (SCOT) and a mobile earth station, a national system of providing instruction courses for farmers, village-level health and developmental officials, as well as that of inter-cultural exchange between different regions of the country could be evolved by the time INSAT-I is available.

According to reports available on September 11, APPLE is all set to go to France from Bangalore for riding on top of a European Space Agency (ESA) Vehicle to space. The APPLE will undergo further tests in France (at Toulouse, ESA headquarters).

Reform of India's Noisy Parliament

Noise, pandemonium, furore, undignified scenes, walk-outs and a deplorable neglect of the basic duties of a sovereign, all-powerful legislature—these, together with the incalculable waste of time and the taxpayer's precious money have created a growing sense of disenchantment with the functioning of India's Parliament. It is apparent that the 542 M.P.s, elected from all parts of the country, spend much of their time during the sessions of the Lok Sabha in particular and also of the Rajya Sabha in accusations and counter-accusations, often flouting the decorum of the House and causing frequent frustration to the Speaker or other presiding officer. The Monsoon session of the two Houses of Parliament was among the noisiest in recent years; no wonder the Speaker of the Lok Sabha and the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha (who is the Vice-President of India) severely admonished the members and warned them several times. Very often, even their warnings had little effect on the restless M.P.s.

Parliament represents the people now numbering about 650 million; it is supposed to be a watchdog of the public interest, to pass laws after full deliberation and keep the Government on its toes. But if M.P.s themselves behave in an indisciplined manner, inviting ridicule upon themselves, they waste their own and the nation's time. Parliament has an elaborate paraphernalia, including a large staff and the maintenance of Parliament House, the highly impressive high-domed circular

building in which the two chambers hold their sessions, itself costs a large sum. It has been calculated that every minute of Parliament's time costs the country over Rs. 1 lakh. But judging from the manner in which time is callously wasted in both chambers, the members have no consideration for the taxpayer's hard-earned money. And this in a country where more than half the population lives below the poverty line.

A great deal of heat is needlessly generated in Parliament over trivial issues and often over the rules of procedure while urgent public business is held up for want of time. Recently, two M.P.s almost gave a demonstration of their "kung-fu" art (Chinese form of Karate, Japanese-style physical fight), and there was a good deal of shouting. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha then pulled up the members in these words: "It ill behoves all of you to shout in this manner. You must exercise some self-control and show some sense. If each of you is to behave as he wants, why run this House? Come, let us all go out and work outside." Similarly, the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, Mr M. Hidayatullah, deplored several times the noisy scenes in the Upper House which is a House of Elders who are expected to conduct themselves with dignity, decorum and a high sense of responsibility. He warned "This is not a theatre". On August 8 this year the turmoil was described as unprecedented. The Chairman, referring to the need for frequently

expunging objectionable remarks made by some members, said: "If there is anyone who needs protection in this House, it is the chairman."

The need for reforming Parliament is now being widely recognised, and several schemes have been proposed to achieve the aim. The latest remedy, suggested by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha himself during a speech at Bhopal recently, was that the proceedings of Parliament be televised so that the nation should be able to see what is happening in the distinguished chambers by watching TV. Mr Hidayatullah would also like the proceedings of the Rajya Sabha to be televised in the whole country. This exposure, it is believed, may make the M.P.s more conscious of their responsibility to the country, prevent noisy scenes and ensure decorum because no member would like to be "caught" by the people creating trouble, making noise, needlessly causing interruptions, disturbing other members' speeches or otherwise behaving in an unbecoming manner. The members would probably prefer to put on their best behaviour so as to create a good impression on their constituents (they have to face the voters again next time and have to be in their good books).

The idea of projecting parliamentary proceedings on the TV screen is by no means new. Several countries have already adopted this procedure, even though their legislators do not waste so much of public time in

fruitless pursuits and gesticulations as Indian M.P.s do. The U.S. Congress proceedings are often televised. Even the proceedings of certain important committees of the American Congress are projected on TV. Certain crusaders like McCarthy who created much scare about Communists were actually found out, in the sense that the American public realised that these Congressmen were carrying things to excess. Rational and balanced people started disliking the McCarthy mannerisms and his blatantly prejudiced manoeuvres. Thus ended a menace to American society which could have, but for television, continued for some time more. Again, the impeachment of President Richard Nixon, which ruined his political career, was televised and every American man and woman saw the realities which had earlier been hidden from them.

In several European countries also the proceedings of legislatures are televised on special occasions; in Britain the debates in Parliament are at times broadcast, but the people of that country do not favour TV projection of their Parliament. It is believed that among the world's major democracies India is the only one whose M.P.s are protected from public exposure either through the radio or TV. This is a strange and indefensible situation especially because the Government often claims that the mass media, especially TV and radio, are effective means of mass education. There is no doubt that M.P.s would restrain themselves if they are conscious of the fact that they are being watched by their countrymen. Indians have no reason to be as conservative as the British people. In any case, the sense of responsibility among British M.P.s is far greater than is noticeable in their Indian counterparts.

The reform of Parliament can be carried out in other ways also with a view to making this body more effective and saving the taxpayer's money to some extent. One way is to ensure a higher standard of education among the M.P.s. At present even a middle pass person can become an M.P. If a higher educational qualification is prescribed for membership, there may be less of noisy scenes though of course there can be no guarantee of decorum even then. Secondly, considering the fact that effective work in every Parliament is done only by a handful of people and the rest merely make high-sounding speeches and play to the gallery, it would be best to push through most of the legislative work in committees comprising members specialising in particular fields—say agriculture, urban problems, financial matters, trade and industry and general issues.

Again, steps need to be taken urgently to check the deterioration in the quality and calibre of members. Agriculturists now comprise about 40 per cent of the members, while in the first Lok Sabha 14.7 per cent members belonged to this profession. Their number is likely to increase. Another step is also necessary—grooming of promising, intelligent and well-educated people as shadow Ministers. The training and the implicit inculcation of a sense of responsibility will lead to greater earnestness of effort, greater devotion to duty and less inclination to indulge in non-parliamentary expressions and extraneous activity.

Moreover, if an effort is made to nominate to Parliament a sizable group of members (instead of a few for art and public service, etc., as at present), there would probably be a more earnest effort to attend to really urgent national business. The majority of the M.P.s

would still be elected by popular vote and have a mass base so as to represent the common man, but important legislative business and work requiring expert knowledge could be entrusted to small groups of M.P.s who are knowledgeable and who are unlikely to be swayed by extraneous considerations or develop a penchant for seeking cheap popularity by adopting populist postures.

The enormous pressure of business pending before Parliament, as a result of which several Bills either lapse or have to be postponed from session to session, is another factor that affects the working of the two Houses. As long as the attention of M.P.s is diverted by agitations, riots, crime and law and order problems (even though law and order is a State subject) Parliament's own work will continue to suffer. If, however, the main work of discussing and finalising of measures is left to committees, the time of Parliament would be saved. Of course, final approval to all such Bills would be given by Parliament as a whole, but that would become a formal affair since M.P.s would have the satisfaction that all aspects of the measures have been examined carefully and in detail by their colleagues sitting in committees. In effect, this would amount to a devolution of functions.

It is wrong to contend that such devolution of functions would be a denial of political democracy. When the country has reached a stage where Parliament's effectiveness and prestige have been fast eroded, it is pointless to plead for continuing a system in which there is more of noise, interruption and delay in the transaction of public business than of solid, constructive work. Even under the committee system the Budget

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New Foreign Policy Perspectives

India's foreign policy for the 1980s presents new complications and necessitates more specific enunciations because of the changing balance of power; the virtual end of detente between the world's two giant Powers; the competition in various fields lately offered by China—the new giant of the East—the threats to India's national security; the renewed arms race fed by the USA and China which have been turning Pakistan into a new bastion against the Soviet Union's occupation of Afghanistan; the new complexion acquired by non-alignment especially after President Tito's death and the renewal of tensions in the Middle East and the Far East.

The Cold War, which caused so much trouble and conflicts in the sixties, is back again; SALT has been relegated to the background, and each Power suspects the other of aggressive tactics. The intense suspicion has found concrete expression in the rapid build-up of military bases in the Indian Ocean, which poses an additional danger to the Indian sub-continent through destabilisation.

These developments need to be examined in the right perspective. First, the changing balance of power and the end of detente. The time when the U.S.A. and the Soviet Union were closely aligned against China is long past. During the past five years the USA has made up with China on discovering a community of interests, economic, political and military, with the strongest

nation of the Far East. The U.S.A. feels that its global interests would be safeguarded and promoted through friendship with China. The U.S.A. has sacrificed Formosa (Taiwan) to satisfy Beijing (Peking). It also realises that the policy of encirclement of U.S. proteges, which the Soviet Union has been quietly but relentlessly pursuing for the past many years, can best be countered by closely co-operating with China which would do anything to keep its ideological enemy, the Soviet Union, in check.

This realisation has gained an additional edge following the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan which has become a Russian base for all practical purposes despite the intense rebel activity in and around Kabul. Soviet-occupied Kabul thus poses a menace to the U.S. and Chinese fortifications, and this challenge has created a dangerous situation for India because of the destabilisation of the region it threatens to cause and the feverish arms build-up it has encouraged.

All the protests lodged by India and other littoral States of the Indian Ocean against the manoeuvres and counter-manoeuvres by the giant Powers in the region have been fruitless. The U.N. General resolutions declaring the Ocean as a zone of peace have also borne no fruit. The U.S.A. has in recent months sent more aircraft, military equipment and sophisticated aircraft to Diego Garcia than before, and the Soviet Union has also been strengthening its

own military bases in the Middle East and the Far East so as not to be caught napping. Security considerations require India to take urgent measures to neutralise, if not altogether eliminate the consequences of Great-Power presence in the Indian Ocean. The Government of India has naturally to take a long-term view of this trend and adjust its policy so as to prevent or meet eventualities which might affect this country's security.

It is true that warships and modern aircraft equipped with nuclear warheads and flying the flags of rival Powers now freely roam the Indian Ocean. It is also true that this Big-Power rivalry is likely to continue in the coming years because the potential theatres of war between the Big Powers lie in West Asia and South Asia. The Indian Ocean has, in fact, been far from a zone of peace. The peace of the region was sorely disturbed for almost a decade when the U.S.A. actively intervened in Vietnam. The pretext for the brutal U.S. action was that it wanted to ensure peace, amity and freedom in the region.

At that time there was neither the crisis of the Persian Gulf oil, nor the crisis created by the upheaval in Iran (where the U.S. prestige has suffered grievously since the exit of the Shah), nor the Soviet "dagger" held in Kabul. Then the battle, or rather the proxy war, was between the U.S.A. (which backed South Vietnam) and the Soviet Union (which supported North Vietnam after winning its support by outmanoeuvring

Communist China). Oil was even then the main consideration and the production centres as well as the supply routes were being effectively protected against all contingencies.

But New Delhi would do well to remember that the presence of rival Powers in the Indian Ocean, though undesirable from the point of regional peace and security, poses little immediate danger to India's security. The military hardware that is being pumped into Diego Garcia is not meant to be used against India. It is the inter-Power rivalry that provides the provocation.

But it would be wrong for this country to allocate a larger part of its annual Budget for military equipment simply because of the Big-Power competition in the Indian Ocean. Other options should be examined to resist the Big-Power threats to our freedom and security. In 1962 it was a different story: the country's defence expenditure was stepped up hurriedly because of the Chinese aggression and the realisation that the country's defences had been neglected as a result of sheer complacency, encouraged by Nehru and Krishna Menon, and in the belief that China would never attack India (the Hindi-Chini Bhai-Bhai story). Now the arms race between the Powers does not pose a direct threat to this country. India seeks and secures cordial relations with both.

This, however, does not apply to the massive arms supplies by the U.S.A. and China to Pakistan, ostensibly to strengthen that country to check the Soviet expansionist designs. This theory is obviously fallacious, because a Soviet attack on Pakistan in any circumstances is unthinkable. India has to arm itself adequately to meet any contingency arising from a Pakistani attack on any pretext,

Kashmir, for instance. Although it is true that a strong Pakistan will be an asset to India, the danger of an arrogant Pakistani military dictator misusing American arms against India (as was done on two previous occasions) is very much there.

As India's External Affairs Minister said during a seminar on foreign policy on August 8, the recent increase in international tensions has created an atmosphere surcharged with suspicion and has led to ever-increasing interference in the affairs of small countries as well as a frantic search for new military bases and facilities. Consequently, while the Seventies could be described as the "decade of detente", the Eighties could become a decade of confrontation. No wonder, the world's annual military expenditure has reached the astronomical figure of 450 billion dollars.

India's foreign policy continues to be based on a national consensus. The consensus does not necessarily mean complete identity of views on all matters but foreign policy issues have seldom been controversial during elections. This has been the case since the days of Jawaharlal Nehru, the prime builder of non-alignment. There have been no wild swings or radical changes in India's foreign policy, though there has been a shift in emphasis, for instance, on close ties with the USA or Moscow.

Non-alignment is still the best policy for India, and in recognition of this fact there is no intention in official or non-official circles to deviate from it. In fact, in a multipolar world there is all the more need for a genuine non-alignment so as to remain on the best of terms with every country and not arouse the hostility of any Power. The aim of non-alignment is world

peace, and that continues to be the country's goal. But non-alignment must be dynamic, not complacent or passive. Both the Afghanistan and Kampuchea decisions brought down Delhi's stock as a truly non-aligned country.

India's recent recognition of the Heng Samrin regime in Kampuchea has been interpreted as a surrender by Delhi to Soviet pressure and, to that extent, it has meant a setback to the independent stand India has taken for many years. Ambassadors of ASEAN countries reacted sharply to India's move, and China also expressed its displeasure on the decision, describing it as "exceptionally regrettable". There was even a threat from an ASEAN member that it would review trade and economic relations with India. Perhaps if the recognition had been delayed by a few months the reaction would not have been so sharp. But India will soon resume its efforts for normalising ties with China.

An important aspect of foreign policy in the Eighties is foreign economic policy. India has to make a different approach to each region in this regard, depending upon its own national interest in each case. In some cases the interests are complementary, in other cases there is severe competition to be countered. In the relations with the oil-producing Arab countries India cannot afford to displease them; with Iraq, for instance, India has throughout maintained cordial relations. With Iran also friendship has become necessary despite past differences.

India can also play a more active role in supplying technology to the "Group of 77" (actually there are 120 members). Technical co-operation with the vast majority of the Third World can pave the way

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World Economic Outlook

A spell of stagnation is ahead for the poor nations. This prediction by expert agencies like the IMF, OECD and some others must set us a-thinking. This feature outlines, very briefly though, what these forecasts are. —Editor

Nothing but frustration meets the eye as one surveys the Indian economic horizon. Is the global scenario, present or future, any better? It is gloomy. At least that is so according to the recent IMF (International Monetary Fund) report "World Economic Outlook" or the OECD (Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development) survey or UN economic survey.

The world is facing four basic problems: (a) inflation; (b) slow growth of output with a threat of recessionary tendencies in the industrial world; (c) adverse trade balance; and (d) unemployment, particularly in the developing countries. A brief discussion of the nature, causes and remedies of these problems would be in order.

(a) **Inflation:** Hardly any country, developed or developing, is out of the grip of inflation today. In fact, one of the most discouraging features of the global economy is the 'worsening of inflation'. The level and the rate of inflation, of course, varies from one country to the other. None of the seven major industrial countries escaped a substantial acceleration of consumer price increases during the last year and early this year.

In the U.S.A., for instance, inflation shot up from 8·9 per cent per annum in 1979 to an annual rate of 17 per cent in the first quarter of 1980. In the oil exporting countries, the increase in consumer prices is likely to reach 12 per cent in

1980 as against 10 per cent in 1979.

For most of the non-oil developing countries, the overall increase in consumer prices in 1979 and 1980 is estimated at 30 per cent. The UN economic survey projects a period of virtual stagnation for the non-oil developing countries upto mid-eighties.

India experienced a higher bout of inflation than U.S.A.: 20 per cent in 1979; it is likely to escalate further to 30 per cent during the current year. The uptrending tendency is reflected in the government's declaration of successive installments of dearness allowances to its employees in the months of November, 1979, February, May and (possibly) July, 1980.

The London Business School predicts that the world inflation would peak at 15 per cent for manufactured goods and 11 per cent for consumer goods. This unprecedented inflationary build-up may lead to global recession and ultimately to stabilisation in the real price of oil. Inflation would fall in 1981 and economic recovery would begin first in the developed countries and later in the non-oil developing regions.

Why this demonic inflation? While the monetarist school blames the excessive money supply in the economy for the unbridled inflation, others hold the commodity shortages responsible. In an 'open' economy like India, a perceptible element of imported inflation buttresses

the domestic inflationary pressures. A case in point is the hike in the prices of crude and petroleum products imported from the OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries). The non-oil developing countries are affected by this in two ways: One, the high-priced imported oil generates cost-push inflation in industries or economic activities where it constitutes a major input; Two, the imports originating from the industrialized countries would be costlier and would accelerate inflation. The effect of the two have compounded together to a higher price multiplier.

(b) **Slow output growth:** The stagflation results in slackening of the growth output. The average annual growth rate of the non-oil developing countries was 6 per cent during the period 1967-72. Almost the same rate has been maintained in recent years. The U.N. economic survey says that for the world as a whole the economic growth in 1980 may decline to 2·5 per cent from 3·4 per cent in 1979. IMF places the global growth rate at a mere one per cent in 1980. Be it noted that a rate below 5 per cent per annum is "modest" in view of the development needs and the aspirations of this region. Incidentally, the overall growth rate of India during the past 3 decades has averaged to 3·6 per cent per annum which is very 'modest' in terms of the IMF yardstick stated earlier. The forthcoming plan, 1980-85, is set to attain an annual growth rate of 5 per cent or more.

The OECD forecasts 4·5 per cent annual decline in GNP (gross national product) of great Britain and 5 per cent of U.S.A. The combined GNP of all the 24 countries of the OECD will drop by one per cent this year. The growth rate for 1981 will be zero, that is, "the level of GNP in mid-1981 may be no higher than that at present". The London Business School estimated that the world industrial production would decrease by 5 per cent during the period 1980-81. Most other estimates, which are optimistic, suggest one per cent rise in world gross national product in 1980 and a two per cent increase in the next year.

For the non-oil developing countries, as a whole, a five per cent growth rate is projected for 1980 but it will be unevenly distributed.

Thus, the general picture of the world production in the future is rather bleak. Reasons? As already stated, the squeeze in the availability of critical inputs like oil, coal, power and imported raw material is the major contributory factor. In the case of the third world, the low imports of capital goods and consumer goods would constitute an additional bottleneck. Maintenance of domestic savings will be difficult or impossible in the face of the very high rates of increase of consumer goods prices. The real value of foreign aid or grants will be impaired by the rise in import prices or inflationary conditions.

A larger amount of domestic goods will buy the same amount of imports. This diversion of resources, due to adverse terms of trade, will impinge on the availability of real resources for development. Result? Slow growth, wider economic disparities and acute poverty.

(c) **Adverse trade balance:** The pattern of the balance of

payments has been sharply affected by the oil price hike declared by the OPEC recently. The OPEC have obviously earned surpluses at the cost of the industrialized economies and the oil-importing developing nations. The surplus in the current account registered a step-up to \$ 68 billion in 1979 from a low level of \$ 5 billion in 1978. Quite contrarily, the developed countries suffered a big deficit of \$ 11 billion in 1979 as against a surplus of \$ 31 billion in 1978. The non-oil developing countries were harder hit as their deficit climbed higher to \$ 55 billion from \$ 36 billion during the same interval. The deficit is projected to rise further to \$ 68 billion in 1981.

The causes leading to the phenomena of dwindling surpluses and mounting deficits are too well known to need elaboration. It would be enough to note here that the rising prices of crude and petroleum products have made sizable contribution to 'inflate' the oil import bill (Rs. 5000 crore for India, 1980) but the export earnings have, on the contrary, shown deceleration. Hence the deficit. Worse still is the fact that there are no prospects of the yawning trade gap being bridged in the near future.

(d) **Unemployment:** The OECD study says that the deceleration in economic growth with the threat of a recession will boost the joblessness total to over 23 million or nearly 7 per cent of the OECD labour force from around 20 million in the first half of this year. In U.S.A., unemployment will boost to 8·25 per cent by mid-1981 as against 6 per cent in the first quarter of 1980. The addition to the army of the unemployed in the industrialized countries will be 3 million in the next 12 months.

The rise in unemployment (and under-employment in the

under-developed countries) is explained by the slack growth plus the increase in the population or the labour force. The deflationary policy stance adopted by the U.S. Administration to curb inflation is also a contributory factor to unemployment there.

Let us now consider briefly some of the remedial measures of the problems discussed above.

In the first instance, it must be recognised clearly both by the industrialized and the developing countries that a new world economic order is inescapable now. To usher in the new order in a smooth fashion, an essential prerequisite is perfect North-South rapport. Not confrontation but co-operation between the developed and the developing nations provides the key to their knotty problems. U.N. Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim reportedly said in Geneva that the world would face growing tension, confrontation and starvation for millions of people unless the rich and the poor nations achieve a break-through in economic co-operation. For this "what we really need is a political will to make concessions" he added. The problem cannot be solved by technicians.

There is no magic wand to contain inflation. If the OPEC persist in their policy to escalate the prices of the crude and the petroleum products and the oil-importing countries fail to acquire self-reliance in the oil economy, the inflationary potential—domestic as well as international—may continue mounting up unabated. In other words, the real solution to the existing and prospective inflationary situation lies in finding alternative energy sources—solar energy, nuclear energy, coal power, hydro-electricity etc. This approach is dictated by another consideration also. Oil

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New Industrial Policy : A Critique

To accelerate the process of industrialization and resuscitation of the stagnant Indian economy, a calculated measure taken recently is the re-vamping of the industrial policy. This feature attempts its appraisal.

—Editor

The industrial policy statement by the Union Minister of State for Industry, Dr Charanjit Chana, in the Lok Sabha on July 23, 1980, is yet another step (forward or backward?) calculated to accelerate the process of industrialization within the framework of mixed economy. It sticks to the parameters set out in the industrial policy resolution (IPR), 1956, on grounds of "constructive flexibility." Though the re-vamped industrial policy does not reflect any new thinking, it, at least, shows the government's deep concern to bring about revival of the shattered economy. Our discussion here is divided into two parts: the first part spells out the main points of the policy statement while the second part attempts an evaluation.

SECTION I.

1. Socio-economic objectives: What are the socio-economic objectives governing the policy statement? According to Dr Chana "what is needed above all is a set of pragmatic policies which will remove the lingering constraints to industrial production and, at the same time, act as catalysts for faster growth in the coming decades". Increased and rapid industrial growth is thus the keynote of the new policy. To achieve this goal, he sets out the triple objectives of modernisation, expansion and development of industries. This requires optimum utilization of the existing installed capacity; maximization of production and productivity; higher employment

generation; reduction of regional imbalances through development of un-industrialized or backward areas and locational diversification of industries; development of agriculture and agro-based industries, growth of export-oriented and import substitution industries; strengthening of small-scale industries and consumer protection against high prices and bad quality.

2. Salient features: For the fulfilment of the aforesaid goals, the salient features of the industrial policy are as follows:

(a) **Public sector:** In consonance with the mixed economy policy, the industrial policy statement accords top priority to the public sector to help it regain the commanding heights. The gigantic task before the government, therefore, is to rehabilitate first the erosion of faith which the public sector has suffered during the Janata regime and then to take effective steps for its improved performance. It may be noted parenthetically that, according to the latest official report, the net losses of the public sector enterprises during 1979-80 are likely to be Rs. 149 crore, about five times those of the previous year. This is attributed to higher input prices and shortfalls in production. The policy statement envisages unit-by-unit examination of the public sector undertakings, corrective action in terms of a time-bound programme, broad-structuring of the system and provision of dynamic and competent manage-

ment to achieve encouraging results.

(b) **Integrated industrial development:** In itself, the concept of economic federalism or integrated industrial development has a populist appeal. Without mincing words, Dr Chana says that his government wants to reverse the trends of the last three years (of the Janata rule) towards creating an artificial division between small- and large-scale industries under the misconception that these interests are essentially conflicting. It is true that there is no basic conflict between the small- and the large-scale industries. But it is not often found that the big fry eats up the small fry. The categorization of industries into tiny, small, cottage and large or dominant industries is warranted from the point of view of management and resource constraints. A careful examination of the industrial policy statement makes it clear that the so-called "artificial" division is retained even as the limits of investment of certain categories of industries are enhanced in the policy pronouncement. Categorization is thus only a marriage of convenience and should not hamper mutual growth and development.

(c) **Small industries redefined:** For rapid growth and development, the limit of investment in equipment and machinery has been doubled in the case of small-scale industries. The revised limit is Rs. 20 lakh as against Rs. 10 lakh for the small-scale units and Rs. 25

lakh instead of Rs. 15 lakh for the ancillary industries. For the tiny units, the investment has been enhanced two-fold from Rs. one to two lakh. The rationale for this enhancement is stated to be to discourage *benami* investment, cover the incidence of higher costs and facilitate long over-due modernisation of many of the existing small-scale units.

Critics are of the view that the enhanced investment levels will encourage rather than discourage *benami* ownership. The initial impact of the higher investment will be inflationary and hence higher cost of production. Doubts are expressed as to whether it will not mean a tilt towards capital-intensity and less of labour-intensity.

Small units will continue to have the advantage of reservation of items of production. Their number now is 834. Dr Chanana has also assured the Parliament that violation of this by the big industrialists will attract punitive action against the defaulters.

A few nucleus plants will be set up in each district to generate as many ancillaries and small and cottage units as possible. The policy statement summarily declares the Janata government innovation of District Industries Centres as failures. But it does not indicate any alternative.

(d) *Automatic growth:* Since 1975, as many as 15 "core" industries enjoy the facility of increasing their production by a margin of 5 percent per annum limited to 25 per cent during five years over the normal permissible expansion of 25 per cent of the authorised capacity. This facility has now been extended to 19 additional industries under the new dispensation. All the 34 industries will now be able to expand their capacity to 156 per cent of the original licensed capacity without having to go through the red tape of

obtaining expansion licence under the industries (Regulation and Development) Act, 1951. This blanket licence for capacity creation has serious implications, when it is recalled that good many industries have already utilized capacities. According to the Secretary, department of heavy industry, however, the rationale behind this decision to "permit expansion without a licence" is to allow optimum capacity utilization rather than throttle their natural growth to the dismay of the poor consumer. That means that the policy statement lays emphasis both on fuller utilization as well as creation of capacity.

Where excess capacity has already been created, it will be regularized. The licensing procedure will be further simplified and rationalized. A Data Bank for monitoring the progress of various licensed/registered investment schemes will be set up.

(e) *Export-promotion:* The industrial policy states specifically that export-oriented industries will receive sympathetic consideration.

(f) *Economies of scale:* In order to enlarge the industrial base and reap the economies of scale of production, the industrial policy statement adumbrates "modernisation package". This implies the use of advanced and sophisticated technology in the large industries and integration of the various aspects of industrialization such as location, optimum use of all scarce resources (energy, raw material) so as to minimise the cost of production. It also means that the modernisation process percolates down to the small units.

(g) *Nationalization of industries:* Dr Chanana declared unambiguously that nationalisation of industries will be an exception rather than the rule

and that too on grounds of public interest.

(h) *Industrial truce:* Recognising the need for establishing and maintaining labour-capital amity and good will, the new industrial policy calls upon the industrialists to shoulder social responsibilities particularly in terms of maintaining the price line, avoiding hoarding and speculation and maximising production on efficient basis. This will help break the vicious circle of poverty and also foster good industrial relations.

SECTION II.

Critique: (i) *No fundamental change:* The industrial policy statement makes no fundamental deviation from IPR-1956 even though it announces some relaxations and concessions of a major nature. It does however register a departure from the Janata government's policy in as much as it does not compartmentalize the tiny, small-and large-scale sectors but "weaves them together to achieve balanced and rapid industrial growth". It must be recorded that employment generation is not the keynote of the new policy as was the case with the Janata government's policy statement.

(ii) *Pro-private sector:* While the public sector is being rejuvenated, there is a perceptible twist in favour of the private sector. Naturally, the private entrepreneurs have welcomed the industrial policy statement. The decision to regularize the excess capacity or to extend the facility of automatic growth to more basic/strategic industries is, indeed, a welcome feature from the standpoint of the private entrepreneurs. They do not grudge the concern of the government to improve the efficiency of the public sector undertakings perhaps because of the indirect benefits accruing to them. (Contd. on page 198)

ECONOMIC SCENE

- Unbridled Inflation
- Education & Development
- Whither Planning ?

Unbridled Inflation

Q. Make a rapid review of India's inflationary situation during the 1970s and suggest effective remedial measures.

Ans. The decade of eighties augurs ominous for the price front. The year 1979-80 was marked by a re-emergence of inflation and the trend is likely to continue.

According to a recent survey by a chamber of commerce, the year 1980 may experience a price

spurt of 15 to 17 per cent, thanks to the excessive money supply in the previous year (There is a time lag between changes in money supply and the consequential changes in prices). The inflationary pressures today are, thus, the legacy of the last decade, 1970-71 to 1979-80. On scaling the indices of the gross national product, money supply and the wholesale prices for the decade, with 1970-71 as the base year, the behaviour of the prices is revealed as follows:

Sub-periods	Trend	Average annual rise per cent in prices	Average percentage increase in money supply	Average change in GNP per year (at constant prices)
(1) 1971-72/1974-75	Rising	15.3	13.1	1.6
(2) 1975-76/1978-79	Relatively stable prices	1.6	16.4	5.9
(3) 1979-80	Prices rise	16.5	11.3	-3.0
(4) 1971-72/1979-80	Rising	12.9	25.8	3.3

Source: Economic Times, New Delhi.

For the period, as a whole, GNP (at constant prices) increased by 29.3 per cent, while the money supply increased by 231.8 per cent and the wholesale prices by 116.4 per cent. The increase in money supply and a decline in GNP in 1979-80 has imparted a fresh spurt to prices. The last 16 months, April 1979 to July, 1980, has witnessed a rise of 33 per cent, on a point-to-point basis. This poses a big menace.

What contributed to this menacing situation? Broadly speaking, inflation is the outcome of composite factors—national and international. The Indian economy is a scarcity economy and, therefore, more susceptible to pressures of excessive money supply. Inflation worsened when the commodity shortages in 1979-80 grew more acute due to drought but the money stream continued swelling without abatement on account of the high velocity of

circulation of black money, expansion in bank credit and the increase in governmental expenditure on non-developmental programmes, in particular. The rupee value internally crashed this year to just 26 paise hitting the poor the hardest (Base 1970-71).

Internationally, the hike in the price of crude compounded the domestic inflationary potential for a higher price level. The contribution to the spiralling price by different factors was stated in the Parliament by the Union Finance Minister, Mr. R. Venkataraman, in these words: "The price increase this year (1980-81) had been mostly because of the petroleum products which had contributed 37.4 per cent of the increase; the gur and sugar which had contributed another 24.9 per cent. All the other commodities had contributed only 10 per cent of the increase".

Remedial measures: The frontal attack on inflation can alone be effective. Mere appeals to traders, businessmen and others will cut no ice. Even drastic and unconventional measures should be taken to reduce shortages in commodities, particularly wage goods. Some economists have gone to the extent to suggest 'financial emergency' as a surgical operation for the malady. Curb s on monetary expansion, self-reliance through import substitution, better demand management and wider coverage

of the public distribution system should be undertaken. The Essential Commodities Act need to be suitably amended to discourage smuggling, hoarding and speculation. Higher rate of interest is also recommended (Our bank rate of 15 per cent is lower compared to 18 to 20 per cent in Europe and USA). But given the high import content of inflation, domestic correctives (essential though they are) will not result in a fall in the price level. The 'imported inflation' is beyond our control. Pragmatically, therefore, the new sixth plan assumes that the inflation next year will be of the order of 30 per cent. It is no use hiding this fact. The nation would do well to be prepared for it.

Conclusion: It is high time the government realized that unbridled inflation is too serious a situation to be tackled through soft options.

Education & Development

Q. "The relatively low priority given to investment in education is one of the causes of our failure in economic development". Comment.

A n s. Economic development is a process of transformation of a poor country into a more affluent one. India embarked upon it three decades ago but the fruits of development have not yet percolated to the poorest of the poor. On the contrary, the population below the poverty line has increased both in absolute and proportionate terms.

According to Theodore Schultz, "It simply is not possible to have the fruits of a modern agriculture and the abundance of modern industry without making large investments in human beings".

Investment in education in India has been of a minimal order. In mid-1970s, for in-

stance, India was investing only 6 per cent of the total investment in physical capital *per capita*. The proportion of the population with primary schooling was no more than 7.3 per cent of the total labour force in India by early 1970s. Persons with secondary education just accounted for 2.2 per cent. These figures are very low compared with some of the developing countries and far lower than those of the developed countries. Adult literacy rate in all the developing countries was estimated at 51 per cent in 1975, 39 per cent in 1960 and 45 per cent in 1970. In the industrialized countries it was 99 per cent in 1970 and 1975 and 98 per cent in 1960. In India, the literacy rate was about 36 per cent in 1960.

A World Bank study on Indian education indicates that only 25 per cent of the children in the age group 5 to 11 years enrolled in Grade I progress to Grade VIII. This means drop-outs aggregate to 75 per cent of the entrants to the school at Grade I. Apart from the national waste that the drop-outs involve, they entail additional expenditure if they are to be imparted informal education as envisaged by the outgone Janata government.

There is a strong correlation between the level of development and the level of education. There is not a single country with a *per capita* income of over \$ 2,000 which has an adult literacy rate of less than 75 per cent. Rich nations and high literacy rate go together while the poor countries have a low literacy rate. The skill and technology acquired through education make it possible to utilize the scarce resources more efficiently and gainfully. Wide awakened educated people are valuable social assets and vital factors for self-sustained growth. True, educated unemployed and,

consequently, disgruntled people can prove a social menace also but they can also stimulate production.

In sum, it means that whatever has been done on the educational front in India it is not commensurate with the developmental needs.

Whither Planning ?

Q. Give an idea of the objectives, strategy and size of the new sixth plan under preparation.

Ans. It is platitudinous to assert that the new sixth five-year plan, started on April 1, 1980, must reflect the ideology and thinking of the ruling party. Whether it should (or would) be the economic policies or the party election manifesto which would dominate in determining the plan objectives appears frivolous discussion in view of the fact that the two are overlapping factors. The fact remains however that our plans are a political and economic mix.

Objectives: Like the earlier plans of the Congress regime, the new sixth plan, under preparation, must include self-reliance, reduction of poverty and of unemployment as its basic objectives. This marks a departure from the now defunct Janata government's plan, 1978-83, which made removal of unemployment as its main focus. To put it differently, automaticity and growth through rapid industrialization would be the keynote of the process of development. Indications of this are noticeable in the recently industrial policy statement and the fact that high priority has been accorded to the oil industry. A sum of Rs. 3000 crore—about one-third of the total public sector outlay—will be allocated for oil exploration in the sixth plan.

(Contd. on page 168)

India's Youth Power

"Older men", said Mahatma Gandhi way back in 1929, "have had their innings. The battle for the future has to be fought by younger men and women." In recent years the vast army of India's youth has been coming to the fore, claiming its rightful share in the country's national and regional set-ups—social, economic and political. While the elders are inclined to stick to their positions of privilege and high status, the youth, brimming with vigour and energy that seek recognition as well as a truly meaningful role, demand that the age of the elders is long past; the fossils and the spent-up force must make way for fresh, forceful and freedom-loving young people who are fed up with the stagnation and reactionary trends that mark the existing regime.

The strong protest of the young and the resistance to it by the seniors are not confined to India but are world-wide phenomena. There is hardly any part of the world which is not seething with discontent among the youth. The protest and the discontent are against the hypocrisy being widely practised by people of various ages, especially (so the young people think) the elders who, they contend, do not live up to well-established traditions. In any case, the youth point out, these traditions and attitudes are outdated and reactionary; the urgent need is for a radical attitude and a revolution in thought and action for uprooting the existing and decaying system root and branch to bring in a breath of fresh air. Students, for instance, protest against double talk, fraud and

exploitation.

The ugly forms which student unrest, which is a synonym for unrest of the youth because students constitute the main and militant wing of youth (the illiterate and ignorant village young men have only an insignificant role to play in youth movements), are by now distressingly familiar. The strikes in colleges and universities, the burning and hijacking of buses, the walk-outs from examination centres, the locking up and gheraos of vice-chancellors. At one educational centre the students actually blackened a Vice-Chancellor's face and thus disgraced him beyond measure because he had not conceded their demands (which were unreasonable). And just note the students' absurd demands—question papers must be easy so that they can all pass without studying hard; good marks in internal assessments and class work even when they do not appear in class tests or submit home work; dismissal of teachers who do not dictate notes and insist on full attendance, and a share in the college and university administration and even a say in the appointment of teachers.

In essence, students are rebels against society, and it is the spirit of revolt and rebellion that impels them to make all sorts of demands without calmly assessing their worth and considering their absurd and impracticable aspects that bring them much discredit and generally expose their irrational approach. But it would be unfair to list only the extreme and

absurd demands being voiced every now and then by the country's youth. Some of the demands are well-founded because they seek to redress grave wrongs and to reform a basically faulty set-up.

When teachers do not teach well and take their job lightly, when even textbooks are not available in the market, when question papers are set by examiners carelessly and without examining the syllabus, when the students are unable to get suitable employment even after completing their education, when there is corruption all round and merit is disregarded in recruitment to jobs in favour of "sifarish" and recommendations by V.I.P.s and when a large percentage of jobs is reserved for certain communities, how can we blame them for becoming angry beyond measure and, in the process, losing all sense of balance?

Moreover, youth is after all youth. If the youth do not launch agitations and seek to introduce radical changes, who else will keep the administration on its toes and prevent complacency? Besides, every intelligent youth in every country is basically a revolutionary. It is he who, in company with those like him, is ultimately responsible for the nation's progress. It is the revolutionary spirit among the youth, men and women, that prevents a society from stratifying, becoming wholly complacent and then stagnating. The destruction they are held responsible for is only a manifestation of extreme, uncontrolled anger. It can be

prevented through tactful and sympathetic approach by the guardians of law and order, by a scientific change in the set-up, so as to provide fruitful openings for youth and prevent the seniors from monopolising the key positions in all fields of life and activity.

Equally important is the role youth power can play in the political sphere. No longer are young people willing to become mere pawns in politics. Countless students have become disillusioned because of the continuous exploitation by the self-seeking and power-obsessed politicians who are opportunists in the real sense. Generally, the students favour a broad outlook and unadulterated secularism, but what they find in many spheres is out and out sectarianism, casteism, communalism and parochialism. The youth seek, by and large, healthy outlets. We should not judge the entire youth unfairly and paint them with a black brush simply because of the extremist activities of a small misguided section.

During the country's freedom struggle students, like women, played a useful role. Since Independence, five broad categories of youth have emerged, each with a distinctive approach and angle of vision: the RSS elements, many of whom claim to be veritable symbols of patriotic fervour; the Naxalites at the other extreme who boldly contradict the RSS and stress the urgent need for bringing about a Mao-type of revolution to mark a break with the Indian tradition; thirdly, there are (or rather were) youth who closely associated themselves with Mr Jayaprakash Narayan—Vahini youth—and came to be known as the Navanirman youngsters, especially in Gujarat (they were able to force out the Chimanbhai Patel Government in early 1974) and the Chhatra Sangharsh Samiti who became a force to be reckoned with in Bihar and

Delhi; then there are the Sanjay Gandhi youth who rapidly acquired strength, especially during and after the general election in January, 1980, and the State Assembly elections held five months later, in May, but who suffered an almost permanent setback because of Sanjay Gandhi's sudden death.

The fifth and last (and in many ways unique) youth group emerged in Assam; they conducted the prolonged agitation against the foreigners; they stood firm like a rock and refused to budge despite the Central Government's show of force and later persuasive tactics. The Assam students were not out to destroy (the loss of life and the damage to property in the Assam disturbances was not, initially at least, of their making). The Assam agitation was unique in many ways: never before had all sections of the people and all categories of employees, including Government staff, joined a Statewise agitation on such a scale that made the Centre virtually helpless.

The RSS is still active, though its youth wing has not been much in the news. Presumably, they hold their "shakhas" and drills without seeking publicity, and continue to be a disciplined lot. Very little is heard these days of the J.P.-oriented Vahini youth. The Naxalites were active for some time but the ideological split among them eroded their ranks, and now we hear of Naxalites only occasionally. At any rate, they have ceased to be a force to be reckoned with and do not pose a challenge to authority. A complete fade-out of this once-enthusiastic entity has not taken place yet, but it may, in due course. As for the Youth Congress, it lost some of its credibility during Mr Sanjay Gandhi's own life-time. After his death there is no effective leadership of this ambitious section of Indian youth; the main

lieutenants stand divided in their beliefs and loyalty.

Certain trends are, however, clear, and on the basis of these certain forecasts can be made. First, since the Youth Congress is without any influential leader, it is unlikely to play any notable role in Indian politics. Split as it is into several factions, each having a mediocre leader, it will find it difficult to work as a united team; mere bulk or numbers, in any case, are seldom effective. The country's youth cannot play its due role, as a commentator said recently, unless it has something more than the push and pull of the Youth Congress, the romantic but mostly impracticable ideology of the Naxalites, the sweat of the RSS, and the passion and regional identity of the youth of Assam and other North-Eastern States.

The probability is that most of the powers which Sanjay Gandhi had acquired by virtue of his being the Prime Minister's son and the future Prime Minister will revert to Mrs Gandhi. If, however, the Youth Congress or any other wing of the country's youth force becomes aggressive, takes to arms and starts bullying people, it will suffer in prestige and credibility. We must remember that Mao's philosophy (of power flowing out of the barrel of a gun) cannot be combined with Gandhism.

The youth are indeed trustees of posterity, but that by itself does not confer upon them any right to dominate the scene. They have to earn the right through responsible conduct and show that they are not all wild, irresponsible, noisy and needlessly demonstrative people. Youth everywhere should work for the promotion of basic human rights and mankind's liberation from the shackles of poverty, inequality and injustice. A fine blend of age and youth is needed for human welfare.

India's Basic Malady

Few people doubt that for most of the ills of the country the blame can be laid squarely on the shoulders of the politician. It is he who has let down the nation through selfish deeds and neglect of the people's interests. And yet there are defenders of the politician too; they argue that it is not the politician but the entire social system that lies at the root. The proposition for discussion is: "India's Basic Malady is the Politician."

Mr A: I think everyone will agree that the fondly cherished dream of the nation for a prosperous India flowing with milk and honey has gone sour. There is disillusionment and frustration everywhere. Poverty is increasing; the latest estimate shows that almost 60 per cent of the people continue to live below the poverty line. Not only that. The disparities between the rich and the poor are increasing instead of disappearing gradually. There is a terrible mess in the economy and in the administration. There is no security of life and property; no political stability; no surety and confidence in the country's regional and national set-ups. Is this the kind of India the people were hoping for? And who is to blame for shattering the people's hopes, for not providing them the "brighter tomorrow" which is so loudly talked about at election time to lure the voters? The blame lies squarely on the politician, the maker of false promises, the defaulter in his duty, the greedy and selfish person who exploits the people's innocence and ignorance, and takes full advantage of their gullibility and credulity. Our great misfortune is that each generation of politicians in this country turns out to be worse and more greedy than its predecessor. They are all busy feathering their own nests, providing for their sons, daughters, nieces and nephews, and other close relations and supporters,

regardless of the sorry plight of the masses who, they think, are meant only to blindly vote for them at election time. They make a mess of Parliament and the State Assemblies, constantly engaging themselves in petty squabbles totally unworthy of their position and status. Wherever you go in the country you come across glaring instances of rank opportunism, blatant chicanery, political treachery, backstabbing and constant campaigns to pull down and topple those who are in office. The time, the energy and the money spent on the favourite political pastime of ousting those in power must have reached fabulous levels. I feel sure that the politician has betrayed the country. But for him, the nation would have progressed rapidly and on sound lines and would have been free from several evils. No words can be too strong to condemn and denounce the politician and his gimmicks.

Mr B: My friend, Mr A, has apparently launched a tirade against politicians. May be, he has some personal enemies among politicians. Let us examine the position impartially and without prejudice. The country's politicians, after all, have not come from outside our frontiers but they are all a part of us, a product of Indian society. What they are and what they do, their anti-national activities and their selfish deeds all reflect the evils and unhealthy

practices of the social and economic set-up in which they have been brought up. The chorus of condemnation sounds strange since it emanates from people who are their own kith and kin. The legislators and other politicians who are being repeatedly denounced have been chosen by us, and have not become devils overnight, after election. So it is the entire system that is to blame, not individuals. Reform the system, and we would have better leaders. Are doctors, engineers, lawyers, teachers, traders and industrialists more honest and more conscientious than politicians? There are distortions everywhere. Lawyers and businessmen fleece the consumers month after month, with impunity. Similarly, the politicians make hay while the sun shines. They are not gods or saints; they too have to live, to feed their families and to provide for their future. Since they are in the limelight, their actions, their earnings and their sources of income are easily noticed, while the nefarious activities of profiteers and the huge earnings of lawyers and doctors are not so easily spotted. The social system reeks with corruption and graft; no single politician or a group can reform society; so they swim with the tide, as the phrase goes. In fact, a politician who does not readily oblige his voters and other supporters by wangling out-of-turn promotions for their relatives and permits and licen-

ces for them is regarded as unfit to be their representative. The people themselves compel their politicians to exert undue pressure for seeking certain favours. If the politician does not secure all sorts of favours for their constituents and potential "vote banks", they will not get elected next time. The party system itself has decayed because of the numerous social distortions, the deceptions, the betrayals and the disregard of loyalties. We must remember that just as a country gets the government it deserves, similarly, it gets the type and calibre of politicians it deserves.

Mr C: Let us not be too zealous in defending the wily politician, as my friend, Mr B, has apparently done. To deny that it is the politician who is to blame for most of the national ills and shortcomings is to delude oneself into believing that a deceiver and a far-too-clever and poorly equipped person is being wronged instead of being praised. What has he done, I ask, that entitles him to praise and commendation? The politician in India specialises in platitudes, high-sounding talk and generous promises for a paradise that are never fulfilled. At election time he goes about with folded hands, posing to be "your humble servant" and the very picture of humility. Then for the next five years, until the eve of the next elections, he disappears, making up somehow the large sum of money he invested in his election. Those who claim that during their tenure of the legislature the country made good progress are misleading their listeners. Every country makes some progress—it is the law of nature—as the years pass, whichever political party is in power. And it is pointless for a group of politicians to claim all the credit for the progress a town or a region makes. There is, in fact, an in-built momentum in all societies for social and economic pro-

gress. Again, should we shut our eyes to the amazing shift of political loyalties by our politicians. Do they have any principles at all? Do they consult their voters before switching their allegiance from one party to another? They bargain for the spoils of office and whoever denies their "right" and does not give them positions of power is ditched in favour of another who is willing to pay them some price for their support and give them a place in the sun. When politicians become M.P.s or M.L.A.s they make money in all sorts of ways, wangle trips to foreign countries, buy imported motor-cars, live in grand style in well-furnished houses, incur expenditure heartlessly and in total disregard of the heavy burden which their needless trips and their stay in posh hotels imposes on the poor taxpayer. Is it fair that politicians should begin to regard themselves as a class apart deserving privileges and facilities far above what are available to the common man whom he is supposed to represent? There is corruption at every level of the administration; merit gets a back seat while recruitment is made to various posts on the recommendations of politicians. The police is often unable to catch the real criminals or to get them convicted when caught, because of the interference and pressures by politicians who spoil morale for personal gain.

Mr D: I would like to supplement the arguments put forth by Mr B who has given several arguments in defence of the Indian politician. I myself know several successful legislators who were men of high ideology and of sound principles but who, soon after winning an election, have been so persistently pestered by voters for certain favours for their near and dear ones that they have been compelled to put aside their ideology and their principles,

sacrificing them at the altar of expediency. Vested interests in business, agriculture and industry exploit the politician and use him for getting various permits and licences. Thus he is made a tool and is unable to serve the masses when he wants to. Each election friend and supporter demands his price—college admissions, jobs, promotions, land allotments and quotas of steel and cement. Institutions, discipline and moral principles and standards of honesty are consequently weakened because of the people's pressures on the politicians, not by the politicians themselves or on their own. Many ills of the system can be traced to the electoral processes. The voters do not vote for party programmes but for individuals. It is also unfair to blame the politician for the parallel economy—black money. This evil can be ascribed to the inadequate production leading to persistent commodity shortages, excessive taxation which prompts evasion and underhand transactions and feed the black money menace. How are politicians to blame for this economic mess? Corruption is a major menace in the country; there is bribery and palm greasing at every stage, but who is responsible for it? If some Ministers live in luxury, are the politicians as a class to be held accountable? The economic situation is being mishandled by the Government, and the profiteers exploit the weaknesses. We must not mix up profiteers with politicians. Again, whether the younger politicians will be able to serve the country better than the old set of politicians, the elders, is another matter. Possible, the younger set is more earnest and is likely to prove more vigorous than the old men, the veterans, who have little enthusiasm left. However, the yawning gap between precept and practice is not peculiar to India, nor are Americans or Europeans more honest.

Self-pity—A Slow Poison

I know of certain young woman who lost her only son in an accident. True it was a tragic happening leaving her heartbroken and deep in despair. Grief over the loss of a dear son is natural. She received a lot of sympathy from friends and relatives.

Two years later she was blessed with another child—a daughter. This child was a lot more beautiful than the son she had lost. In any case the void created by the death of the earlier child was filled. Her life entered a calm and seemingly happy phase. Her husband too felt that God had been kind to them. That the worst was over.

No. It was not. This woman had acquired the unfortunate habit of receiving sympathy, converting it into pity which is the worst of human emotions. A daily dose of pity became her staple emotional diet. She could no longer do without it. As a result, she has become so much immersed in her own world of misery that all the pleasant things of life around her fail to attract her attention. One would think that she is the only person in the world whose life is full of unhappiness.

the proverbial dodo. Self-pity is a slow poison that corrodes our ability to cope, to live. It is not trouble that ruins our life. It is our inability to cope with it!

In many spheres of life, we come across people who are nursing themselves on pity for one reason or the other. There are others who think they sacrificed this or that for a near or dear one. There are yet others who have been deprived of some prizes they thought they deserved. All this could be true. That is not the point. The point is that they bear a grudge against life in general. They are so sorry for themselves that their faces carry a signboard on which is writ large: I am a martyr.

Comparisons come easy and fast to the self-styled martyr. His constant refrain is breast-beating, lamentation. He is obsessed with what is not. My friend has a charming personality. I do not have. He has a scooter. I do not. He is more successful. I am not. He gets along so well with opposite sex. I am a damp squib. But it does not occur to our breast-beater that success, charm and easiness of manner spring from the self, not from externals. His friend is not a breast-beater. He does not squander energy on vain lamentations.

At times, anyone can feel like beating his breast. This is natural. There is nothing wrong in it. It is wrong and a serious personality defect when it becomes a rigid habit, hard to break. If that is true and you always think life is treating you

unfairly, it is time to ponder. At times, life is unfair. There is nothing you can do about it except that you accept it as a part of the mystery of the universe. It is beyond our comprehension much less control. Accept it. Adjust to it. One of the most sensible and practical pieces of advice I ever had was from a friend. Facing failure after failure in finding a suitable job, I asked my friend what to do as I was deep in depression. He said, "Come out of your past." "This", he said, "is more important than getting a job." I was amazed at the practical wisdom contained in this short sentence.

The more you pity yourself the more it grows on you. It does not mitigate misery. It strengthens its hold on you. Here is an illustration. You are familiar with masochism. That is inflicting pain on yourself. Our films are classic examples of it. Our heroes are worst specimens. Take the famous Devdas. The man is a social coward who loses his beloved because he does not have the courage to break free from the slavery of tradition. Then he begins to nurse himself on misery and self-pity. It gets the best (or worst of him) and he drowns himself in drink. This is true of all self-pity-syndrome sufferers. They witness their own doom.

The worst of this syndrome is that the victims unwittingly feel they are inferior to others, unable to stand up to life and its challenges and find retreat into a world of illusion—the easiest escape. The condition

is like a jungle fire. It spreads. The person given to it expects sympathy from others as a right. Little does he realize that he is lowering his own ability to stand up to life. Self-pity is a hopeless crutch. It magnifies troubles, anxieties and fears. The tragic fact is that his fears, troubles and anxieties really come to pass.

Is there a way out. Surely. The first and the foremost thing is to be aware of your condition. Be open-minded and accept it as a serious defect in personality which needs to be corrected. This is essential in all cases of mental ill-health. Tell yourself that it fosters a defeatist attitude in life and virtually converts one into an emotional beggar.

Self-pity is often compared to a spiritual poison. It makes one regress, lose courage and sink into depression. It makes one unworthy in his own estimation, reduces him to a state of helplessness. He is virtually caught in an emotional mess.

Rita was extremely fond of children but she had to wait for seven years when she bore her first child which turned out to be stillborn. She drowned herself in a self-created pool of self-pity. Became jealous of women with children and lost interest in household chores. This luxuriating in pity would have continued much to the detriment of the couple had her husband not decided to pull her out by deciding that they have another child despite short span between the first and the second. This halted the trend towards self-pity and Rita soon was her normal and cheerful self with hang-ups..

Life is full of disappointments big and small. Only a child thinks he can have his way always. In mature people if there is trait towards self pity, it grows. Even minor trifles upset and cause waves of self pity. It gets the better of indi-

vidual only when she thinks that life offers no compensations. Life is full of positive things too. By thinking of them one easily falls on the right side and feels full and satisfied.

A young boy I know thought poorly of himself as a social being. He kept himself to his own company and became a brooder par excellence. Instead of mastering his weakness he withdrew himself into his shell. Thus losing the opportunity to transform his life. Such people are moral cowards. They are fearful of life and take refuge in unreal world, a world of despair. A little moral courage, the willingness to have a go, will make all the difference. An ounce of constructive optimism is worth more than an entire encyclopaedia of despair, says Berne Wolfe. "Sackcloth and ashes, remorse and self-reproach, protestations of guilt and lamentations of hopeless

inferiority are the sanctimonious excuses of cowards." His advice: Act as if happiness were possible.

Self-pity is nothing but an admission that you are unable to look life into face. If the bough will not bend before the wind, it will snap. Those who cannot learn to adjust themselves to disappointments and frustrations will bend and/or snap. Defeat is their destiny.

Do not wallow in self-pity. Go out in the world. Mix with others, find their joys and sorrows. You will find that some whom you were secretly admiring because of their happiness are the ones who are carrying maximum burdens of life. But they are not carrying them uneasily. They have adopted the maxim: Everyone can carry his life's burden however heavy for one day at least. The next day is again one day only.

ECONOMIC SCENE

Strategy: Capital and energy-intensive industries, while energy itself is capital intensive, will be placed atop the scale of priorities. Heavy and large-scale industries will be fostered to achieve rapid industrialization. It should not be misconstrued that agriculture will go by default. But it does mean that even if the industrial growth rate averages 7 per cent per annum, the labour absorption in the industrial sector may be inadequate for the burgeoning number of the unemployed.

The huge resources required for investment in the big industrial sector with long gestation period would be a formidable task.

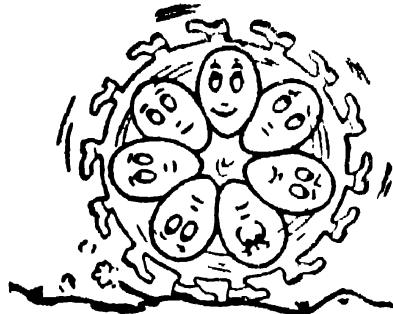
Self-sufficiency on the food front is an important plank of development. According to present projections, the Planning Commission is contemplating to set a target of 154 million ton by the end of the plan. For the

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base year (1979-80) of the plan, the foodgrain output has been assumed as 128 million ton even though the actual achievement in that year was 116 million ton.

Size: The sixth plan outlay in the public sector is worked out at 100,000 crore of rupees as against Rs. 70,000 crore, projected in the revised draft sixth plan (now defunct). To raise the requisite resources, it has been suggested that Euro-market may be tapped, especially for high technology industries. This will release resources for the labour-intensive industries. Will then the ultimate bias be in favour of labour-intensive industries? Will it set right the imbalances and distortions in planning, made by the Janata government, as desired in a communication of the Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to the State governments and Union ministries?

The Son Syndrome



A glaring and gloomy aspect of our social life is parental obsession with the male child. The birth of a son is wildly cheered, gifts given and sweets are distributed whereas the birth of girl plunges the family into grief. Fifth or sixth son is welcome, whereas even the first girl is unwelcome.

What are the factors which are responsible for the son syndrome? It is well known that the son is looked upon as a support in the old age whereas the daughter we believe is "Praya Dhan". She would become in-laws' property. The concept of the daughter becoming in-laws' property, the phrase "Praya Dhan" needs to be consigned to the dustbin of discarded concepts. It amounts to heaping the worst indignity on our women.

The other concept of the son as a support to the parents in their old age deserves to be examined dispassionately. On the surface is nothing wrong in parents expecting emotional and financial support from the son in their sunset days. But factors like son's financial position, his own responsibilities, standard of living, the parents' relationship with his wife and children cannot but be taken into consideration.

In many Indian families blind adherence to this concept runs like a streak of poison ruining relationship and culminating into bad blood. It is natural for parents to lavish affection on son or daughter. But there is no dearth of families in which the son is singled out for pre-

ferential treatment and the girl treated as a kind of pariah.

The daughter would not play any role in the supporting of the aged parents. Though the daughter usually stands by the parents in periods of stress, strain and crisis much more than the son. She is far more reliable an emotional crutch than the son or the daughter-in-law. It leads one to an unfortunate conclusion that the son is favoured because of his financial ability. He is cultivated, pampered, possessed not because he is going to be an emotional balm but because he is a financial crutch.

The relationship between the son and the parents at times smacks of crass commercialism. Right from the days of the son's childhood remarks are made for his consumption that one day he would grow up and support his parents. Nothing of the sort is said to the daughter. As he grows up, the remarks get rarer but sharper in content. The son's education, his up-bringing and expenditure on marriage etc. is brought in to din into his mind that what parents have done for him.

This attitude needs to be recast. There are powerful reasons. Do the parents derive no satisfaction from performing this job? Is it not natural and instinctive for them? Is it not their duty? It is they who gave him birth. Who else is supposed to bring him up, educate him and see him settled? Doing a thing as a part of duty but thinking and secretly wishing for its return in money form amounts to only one thing: parents look

upon the son more as an investment rather than an emotionally satisfying asset.

Parents justify their attitude on plea of tradition. This justification does not bear the touch of scrutiny. It is based on selfish motives but twisted to make it look moral. Even if there was some justification for it in the past, the modern times with their fast changing concepts, making life different from what it was in the past, compel us to give it another look.

Granted that parents have enabled the son to be an earning hand. Granted they have a right to be compensated too. Granted that it is duty to do whatever he can for them. But it should not be overlooked that he has been trained and is earning to support one family, not two. Exceptions are not our concern here.

Shall the parents with all their justifications expect him to support two families? Does it not fetter his own life-style? Does it not bind him down to a depressing grind at a time when he should be enjoying his life with family? By the time he grows out of it, he is sunk in blues of middle years and grave responsibilities of his own growing household.

Parents should refrain from talking about expenditure they incurred on the son and not make him feel that it was a kind of investment they had made to be repaid. How graceful if they were to say: "Well it was our duty".

MODEL PARAGRAPHS

Paragraph-writing is one of the compulsory questions in many of the higher-grade competitive examinations. Thoughts in certain well-known quotations are required to be developed into suitable paragraphs. Some examples are given hereunder.

Neither man nor God is going to tell me what to write.

(James T. Farrel)

Queen Elizabeth was immensely pleased with a performance of Shakespeare's play Henry IV, particularly with the character of Falstaff in it. She ordered Shakespeare to write another play depicting Falstaff in love, adding that the play must be completed within a fortnight. "No", said the dramatist, "Your Majesty cannot dictate to an artist". Elizabeth, the shrewd queen relented and asked him to take his own time. We are told that the play was ready within a fortnight. The artist is the supreme lord, the king in his own domain, brooking no interference, much less dictation. He sees life in his own way, unfettered by any dogma or creed, social, political or economic doctrine. His art destroys this world to create a new, in which his dreams and visions are bodied forth. In proportion as his art is a concession to current beliefs, prejudices or dogmas, it loses its universal and permanent appeal. Tennyson confined his gaze to Victorian thought and beliefs with the result that inspite of excellent technique and virtuosity he has been relegated to a position pretty low in the scale. Shakespeare dealt with human joys and sorrows, unconstrained by time and place and he remains a monarch in his own right.

Merchants love nobody.
(Thomas Jefferson)

When the young son of a rich merchant was asked to write the word love, he spelt it as **£ove**. It was an indication of the shape of things to come. A merchant's religion is money, the only right he loves is that of the yellow metal, the only sound he relishes is the one that comes from the chink of gold coins. King Midas of Phrygia prayed for the golden touch and the gods granted him that, but Greek mythology had dubbed him as a fool. It is significant that Pluto the god of Hell in this mythology is also the god of gold thereby endorsing Christ's dictum "It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the gates of Paradise." Napoleon called the English, a nation of shopkeepers. This nation weighs everything in terms of £.s.d. In dealing with other countries like India tender emotions like love and sympathy were nowhere in evidence. When their trade was menaced by the economic boycott announced by Gandhi they resorted to brutal repression and when that failed came to terms with "the little man" who had shaken them to the very fibres. Radhakrishnan summed up the position succinctly when he said "The English came to India to trade; they remained here to trade and if they left India, it was only to trade." For the merchant trade is everything.

We must take the current when it serves or lose our ventures.
(Shakespeare's Julius Caesar)

In classical mythology opportunity is represented as a woman whose head has a thick lock of hair in front but is bald at the back. If we catch her by the forelock when she comes we grow and prosper. Failure to do so would mean failure and frustration. Opportunity knocks at every man's door once. Quite often the inmate remains asleep. In other cases the knocking remains unheeded and the man is too lethargic to open the door. In a few cases the man unbolts the door with alacrity and the visitor works for him as a nightwatchman. To Nehru came the opportunity of becoming the President of the Congress in 1929. He was only forty then and the times were stormy and crucial. A lesser man might have been crushed under the weight. But Nehru who believed in "living dangerously" accepted the challenge and rode the waves. Under his captaincy the ship braved many a storm till in 1947 it came ashore. On the other hand, there is the case of Neville Chamberlain, the umbrella man of Europe. Confronted with the challenge from Hitler, he followed the policy of appeasement, eroding his country's prestige. He was a miserable failure and the country had to request Churchill to become the steersman. It was an opportunity that Churchill had been looking

(Contd. on page 192)

1. What Secularism means to us

The recent communal riots in Delhi, UP and Gujarat have made the ordinary citizen sit up and ponder as to what is lacking in our secularism. The holocaust that preceded and followed the Partition was an unusual phenomenon, a midsummer madness which overtook millions and left a huge trail of blood-shed and bitterness. But those were old, unhappy, far-off things and the succeeding years brought to the fore important political and economic issues. We appeared to have settled down to the brass-tags of daily routine.

Secularism came to be enshrined in our Constitution, and whatever be our other weaknesses, communal amity and goodwill grew from strength to strength. Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and Christians shared power in the States as well as the Centre; recruitment in services came to be made on merit alone. The old distinction between Muslims and Non-Muslims, deliberately fostered by the British was ostracized lock, stock and barrel. The foundations of secularism appeared to be well and truly laid.

And then comes the shock. The scale of killing may be much smaller, even insignificant but the very fact that some one is killed or wounded simply because he belongs to a particular community detracts from our secularism, casting a slur on our country.

The framers of our Constitution laid down "The State shall not discriminate against

any citizen on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them. No citizen shall on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, descent, place of birth, residence or any of them, be ineligible for, discriminated against, in respect of any employment or office under the State."

The framers were only embodying the great and glorious tradition that India had built up over the centuries. The cornerstone of this tradition was a synthetic or synoptic vision of the Godhead "As the different streams having their sources in different places all mingle their water in the sea. so, O Lord, the different paths which men take through different tendencies various though they appear, crooked or straight, all lead to thee."

The Hindu mind is basically tolerant. Dogmatism, fanaticism and exclusiveness are foreign to it. The ground-work is Vedic but over the centuries it has built a superstructure of the teachings and practices drawn from Dravidianism, Buddhism, Christianity and Islam. It is difficult to imagine such a mind shutting itself from external influences. At times it is tolerance to a fault.

Swami Vivekanand was correctly projecting the Hindu mind when he spoke at the World's Parliament of Religions: "I am proud to belong to a religion which has taught the world both tolerance and universal acceptance. We believe not only in universal tol-

eration, but we accept all religions as true. I am proud to belong to a nation which has sheltered the persecuted and the refugees of all religions and all nations of the earth." The Parsis and the Jews came to India so as to escape the wrath of their persecutors and were given asylum.

It is not without significance that Socrates who rebelled against the Pantheon-worship of his time was ordered to take a cup of poison while Jesus who challenged the ritualism of the Jews was crucified; but Buddha who revolted against the authority of the Brahmins was allowed to preach unhampered and he lived up to the ripe age of eighty.

Secularism does not mean to us irreligion or indifference to religion, as some Westerns interpret it. It is something positive. When India is said to be a secular State it does not mean that we as a people reject the reality of an unseen spirit or the relevance of religion to life. It does not mean that secularism itself becomes a positive religion or that the state assumes divine prerogatives. Though faith in the Supreme Spirit is the basic principle of the Indian tradition, our state will not identify itself with or be controlled by any particular religion. This view of religious life has a prophetic role to play within our national life. No group of citizens shall arrogate to itself rights and privileges which it denies to others. This is the meaning of our secularism.

2. Universities and National Life

At a conference of mathematicians the chairman proposed the toast thus: "Here is to Mathematics and may it never prove of any use to any one." This remark reveals the ancient attitude towards knowledge when centres of learning and education were remote from life. The medieval university looked backwards; it professed to be a storehouse of old knowledge, sometimes a travesty of that knowledge. At a medieval gathering of scholars the subjects most often discussed were "How many angels can sit on the point of a needle?" or "Have women a soul?"

Much water has flowed under the bridge since this attitude prevailed among scholars and in centres of learning. The modern university looks forward and is a factory of new knowledge. More than that, there is more and more involvement of the universities in the stream of national life.

There is first of all the food problem of the country. The Agricultural Universities are devising ways and means to increase food production. The quality of seeds is being improved. Instead of one crop of wheat two, even three crops are being produced. India which was deficit country in the matter of food at the time the Partition took place is now a comfortably surplus country. It has built up strong reserves and is even exporting food, particularly rice. All this has been achieved by intensive cultivation, artificial fertilizers, rotation of crops and qualitative improvement of seeds. The agricultural universities in the country have rendered a yeoman's service in this direction.

The universities are promoting research in various fields. In the field of physics, parti-

cularly atomic physics, our researches can compare favourably with those of the universities of America and Europe. We are members of the Nuclear club and have made rapid advances in space research and weather-research satellites. The Saha Institute, the Raman Institute, the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research are supplementing the work of the universities.

In medical science, too, universities are forging ahead: New drugs for cancer, malaria, hypertension and other diseases have been discovered. Small-pox has been virtually eradicated.

Universities are thus acting as friends and helpers of the nation. But there is a greater duty which they have yet to perform. They have to act as philosophers and guides of the nation. They have contributed a lot towards feeding the body but the soul remains starved. There they have themselves a long way to go. It must be admitted on all hands that in the matter of discipline the universities present a deplorable picture. The newspapers are full of reports about the troubles which brew in all university campuses. Not scholars but

unprincipled politicians rule the roost. Elections generate so much sound and fury that there is no knowing when the volcano will burst. Even murders and kidnappings are resorted to. Deans and Vice-Chancellors are gheraoed. Learning is at a discount. Universities which were supposed to be the beacons of light for the nation have become the plague-spots. The universities of Bihar and Gujarat raised the banner of Total Revolution which ended up in chaos and disorder. The students of Assam on the plea of foreign nationals are holding the state, even the country to ransom and would not allow the refineries to work.

Universities should not behave either like Ostriches, oblivious of the sand all around, as was the case with the medieval universities or like pigs wallowing in the mud as some politics-dominated universities are doing these days but like the proverbial swan swimming and in the process separating milk from water. They should be centres of learning radiating knowledge and guiding the nation. Only when they themselves become models of excellence can they act as guide, philosopher and friend of the nation.

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Changing the Climate

Recent researches indicate that man can change climate. Scientists have known a lot about atmosphere. Although many mysteries are yet to be resolved, the secrets of atmosphere are yielding to scientists' efforts. Satellites that go round the globe give detailed pictures of cloud cover, with measurements of radiant energy from the sun and earth. In the near future they may also provide data on temperature and humidity in the atmosphere. This might be followed by information on wind speed and direction.

Efforts are being made to know which factors control the general circulation of the atmosphere and what causes the circulation to change. Although some important details are wanting, it is known that the temperature differences between the equatorial and polar regions is of extreme importance. This has suggested a number of possible ways in which circulation of the atmosphere—and therefore, the weather and climate—can be modified.

There are some suggestions to warm the Arctic, to reduce the temperature difference between the Pole and Equator and bring about change in overall circulation. It is proposed to coat the Arctic ice with a layer of black carbon dust which would absorb more solar heat than white snow and ice. This, it is thought, will increase the temperature and result in more melting of snow and ice. Scientists think that melted snow/ice would not return. It is supposed that exposed rock, soil

and water would continue to absorb relatively large amounts of solar heat which in turn would prevent snow and ice from building up large amounts. However this is open to dispute, according to some other scientists. The enormous amount of carbon black—1.5 billion for a layer of one thousand inches, makes the scheme somewhat impractical.

A Russian scientist has suggested a building a 60 m. long dam across the Bering Strait between Alaska and Siberia. According to his scheme cold Arctic water would be pumped into the Pacific. Warmer Atlantic Ocean water would then flow into the Arctic to replace it. This might result in small but significant change/increase in Arctic temperature. It is agreed by most experts that by warming up the Arctic atmosphere a change in the world climate and weather should be possible. Whether this change will be for good or bad, even the scientists keep their fingers crossed. Will another Ice Age usher? Will glaciers disappear?

It is known that weather changes bring about global differences. The changes are interconnected. This interconnection of the atmosphere means that it may not be possible to change the climate in one part of the world without effecting changes in others. Who knows playing with climate, without knowing how to control subsequent changes, may cause uncontrollable consequences, some of which could be seriously harmful.

Atmospheric pollution can have an important effect on the world's climate. Perhaps the most important pollutant from this point of view is the gas carbon dioxide produced by the burning of fossil fuels. Scientists have made interesting estimates. Since 1890 the amount of carbon dioxide in the air has increased about 10%. During that period of time the average worldwide temperatures increased almost 1°F. Calculations indicate that about half of that 1°F temperature rise might be due to carbon dioxide. In the next few hundred years, the temperature rise could be as high as 2.5°F.

Atmospheric heating is caused by carbon dioxide because it can discriminate between the heat energy coming from sun to earth, and the heat energy leaving the earth. The essential point to remember is that heat rays coming from the sun are short of wavelength while those leaving the earth are much longer. The sun's rays pass through the carbon dioxide gas with little absorption. But when the longer infrared rays from the earth try to escape through the atmosphere some of them are absorbed. They warm the air instead of passing through to outer space.

No one knows for certain whether the atmosphere's temperature will increase because of the increased carbon dioxide, or if it does, what effect it will have on climate. This much is known however that the effect of increased carbon dioxide in the air needs further scientific investigation.

FASCINATING FACTS

Non-Vegetarian Plants

Over 30 species of plants have been found in India which eat animals. While the ordinary plants get the nitrogen they need from the soil, the meat-eating plants get it from the animals they eat. In the universal plant kingdom on the whole, nearly 450 species of meat-eating plants have been discovered so far.

They all, however, have mechanisms to trap and eat only little animals and insects no bigger than butterflies and grasshoppers.

Three species of Sundew (*Drosera*) found in India have leaves covered with glandular hair secreting a fluid that glistens in the sun. Insects mistaking the fluid for honey are quickly gobbed up and digested by the plant.

Venus Fly-Trap (*Dionaea Muscipula*) has leaves with sensitive hair which on the slightest touch close, trapping the insect. They reopen only after the digestion is over.

Butterwort (*Pinguicula*) found in the Himalayas is a small herb. When an insect falls on its sticky leaf, the leaf rolls inward—enclosing the insect.

Aldrovanda, found in abundance in the saltlakes and salt-marshes of several eastern States, is a free-floating plant. When little animals touch the hair on the leaf, its two halves close, trapping the victim. The leaf remains closed until digestion is complete.

India has about 20 species of Bladderwort (*Utricularia*) another free-floating plant. Its

stem has a trap door that can be pushed in but not out. Little water animals going through this one-way valve are eaten up by the plant, only Venus Fly Trap shows some aggressiveness in catching its prey. When the sun is hot, this plant can trap a fly each time one settles down.

Computers that Talk and Hear

DIAL Frankfurt 7 54 32 but don't ask for Karichen. He will answer no matter when you ring. He is a Bundesbank talking computer with all you need to know about how to get to more than 300 destinations by rail.

Indeed don't ask Karichen. He will ask you where you want to go and then tell you what number to dial for the information required.

Come to think of it, his name may be Karichen but the voice the computer uses is that of a Helmut—Helmut Mangold, head of AEG-Telefunken Systems Development in Ulm, Bavaria.

Words spoken by Mangold are stored digitally on a magnetic disc. The computer retrieves the ones it needs. The telephone from which the call is made functions as terminal, so the information has to be relayed acoustically.

Of late, several major computer manufacturers, including AEG-Telefunken, Siemens and IBM, have launched computers that can not only speak but also hear what they are told.

The idea behind all these innovations is to make computers easier to use. No special training should be needed to handle them.

Message services such as Karichen's can make do with a relatively small vocabulary and rely on texts that are mostly similar and constantly recur.

Digital storage of words or parts of words is well suited in such cases, although substantial storage space is needed, say 50 to 60 kilobits per second of codified speech.

Other processes are needed to carry out more comprehensive tasks, such as translation of any given text into another language.

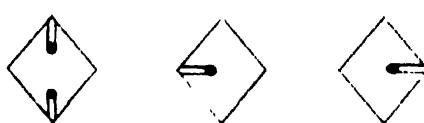
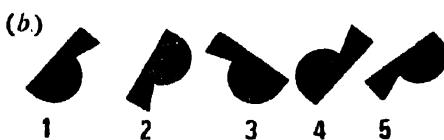
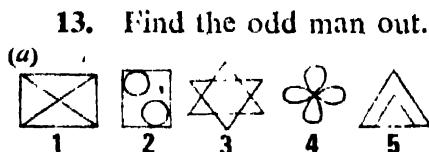
These other processes are based on the physiological procedure to speech. Individual words or sentences are no longer stored for reproduction when the need arises; control signals for electronic speech are given instead.

Speech entails impulse-like air gusts in the vocal chords that are fashioned into the speech signal proper as they make their way through throat, nose and mouth.

The electronic m o c k - u p fashions electrical impulses in an impulse generator that are converted into speech signals by a controlled digital filter.

That, in principle, is how the speech synthesises words. It is a complex form of speech reproduction that entails three-stage signal processing.

(Contd. on page 189)



?

14. Unscramble the words below. A hint regarding each is given in brackets.

(a) HRESCHNOZIPIA
(sort of mental disease)

(b) ROVERPEND (sodder)

(c) VITELMYTISUR
(something to do with university)

(d) MITELEGZII (to make legal)

15. The following statement is absurd, but if two words are made to change places, it will become sensible. Write those two words.

"Some organs play pianos, some play musicians."

16. The words in column A are similar in meaning to the words in column B in different serials. The spellings of the words are jumbled. Name the serials of words which form the correct pair.

A B

1. PARNOITASE	RUDDEIIS
2. RIVEHS	RAVGE
3. SORESUI	PRATING
4. ENDS	FISHLOO
5. PTUSDI	MERIT

Example: P T U S D I & FISHLOO when re-arranged will read STUPID and FOLISH. The answer will be A5, B4.

17. Insert the missing word.
KDSSDQ = LETTER
VDDJ = ?

18. Which figure from the four numbered ones should replace the sign of interrogation?

2, 3, 4, and 5. $3^1 - 1 = 2$;
 $3^2 - 2 = 7$; $3^3 - 3 = 24$; $3^4 - 4 = 77$; $3^5 - 5 = 238$.)

6. 2. (Count vertical lines +1, and horizontal lines - 1)

7. (c).

8. O. (The centre line makes up for the five vowels.)

9. S and W. (The letters jump twice and thrice alternately.)

10. Tiger, Lion, Panther, Elephant, Rat, Giraffe, Camel, Rhino.

11. G. (There are two downward words EAGLE.)

12. (a) They could scarcely earn enough to pay the rent.

(b) I can't find it anywhere.

(c) You aren't going anywhere.

(d) They can take care of themselves.

13. (a) 3. (Drawing number 3 contains more than four enclosed spaces.)

(b) 1. (All the other figures can be rotated into each other.)

14. (a) Schizophrenia (b) Provencher (c) Multiversity (d) Legitimize.

15. Organs and musicians.

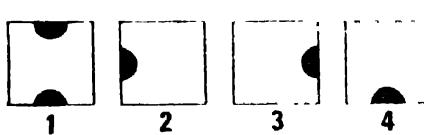
16. A1, B3; A2, B1; A3, B2; A4, B5.

17. WEEK. (The coded letter is one letter before the decoded one.)

18. 4. (The second and third figures in each row contain inside one each of the two small inside figures of the first drawing, rotated through 90 degrees.)

19. 8·1 to 9 inches.

20. Wells, Orwell, Remarque, Dickens, Shakespeare, Wodehouse, Oscar Wilde, Rousseau, Tagore, Hemingway.



1 2 3 4

19. What should the circumference of a cricket ball be?

20. Fill in the names of the authors of the books given in brackets against each.

W —— (Time Machine)

O —— (Animal Farm)

R —— (All Quiet on the Western Front)

D —— (Old Curiosity Shop)

S —— (As You Like It)

W —— (The Immitable Jeeves)

O —— (An Ideal Husband)

R —— (The Social Contract)

T —— (Gitanjali)

H —— (The Old man and the Sea)

Answers & Explanations

- (a) + + - -
(b) + + - +

2. 2516. (Each figure is squared.)

3. 40. (The middle number is subtracted from the upper one, and the remainder doubled.)

4. 5. (Make out a cardboard model for practical trial if you like!)

5. 238. (The series is formed by starting with the number 3, and then forming each successive part of the series by taking the first, second, third, fourth, and fifth powers of 3, and subtracting respectively 1,

General Knowledge Test

Q. What is the period of the Sixth Five-Year Plan?

Ans. 1980-85.

Q. What is the proposed outlay for (i) Public Sector, and (ii) Private Sector in the Sixth Five-Year Plan?

Ans. The framework of the sixth Plan proposes an outlay of Rs. 90,000 crores in the public sector and Rs. 66,000 crores in the private sector.

Q. What is the annual growth rate aimed at in respect of (i) national income, (ii) industrial production, (iii) agricultural production, and (iv) minimum group rate in exports in the Sixth Five-Year Plan?

Ans. (i) The Sixth Plan will aim at an average annual growth rate of 5·3 per cent in the national income.

(ii) Industrial production is envisaged to grow at an average annual rate of eight to nine per cent during the Plan period.

(iii) In agricultural production, the aim will be a growth rate of four per cent.

(iv) A group rate of a minimum of 10 per cent in exports will be fixed.

Q. What is proposed to be the basic unit for poverty eradication in the Sixth Plan. What steps are envisaged to remove poverty?

Ans. The household will remain the basic unit for poverty eradication in target group-oriented programmes. Since families differ in such vital respects as dependency ratios, asset holdings and skills, each household below the poverty line will have to be assisted through an appropriate package of technology, services and asset transfer programmes.

To tackle the problems of poverty, says the Plan framework, an increase in the productive potential of the economy is essential.

Q. What is the main objective of education development in the Sixth Plan?

Ans. The main objective of education development will be to ensure essential minimum education to all children up to the age of 14 years in the next 10 years.

Q. How does the Sixth Plan document ensure its successful implementation?

Ans. The document stresses the need for strengthening the planning machinery at all levels to ensure successful implementation of the Plan. Since the Plan assigns vast responsibilities to the development administration at the grassroots, it will require augmentation of the capabilities of the administra-

tion both at the district and block levels.

The Plan document further says that planning for rapid economic and social development in a democratic society can succeed only if there is conscious and willing acceptance on the part of the common people of the structural changes associated with a fast-changing economy. The framework, therefore, stresses the need for strengthening arrangements for people's involvement in the planning process.

Q. Outline the main objectives of the Sixth Plan.

Ans. Main Objectives of the Sixth Plan (1980-85): These are:

(1) A significant step up in the rate of growth of the economy, the promotion of efficiency in the use of resources and improved productivity;

(2) Strengthening in the impulses of modernisation for the achievement of economic and technological self-reliance;

(3) A progressive reduction in the incidence of poverty and unemployment;

(4) A speedy development of indigenous sources of energy, with proper emphasis on conservation and efficiency in energy use;

(5) Improving the quality of life of the people in general with

special reference to the economically and socially handicapped population, through a minimum needs programme whose coverage is so designed as to ensure that all parts of the country attain within a prescribed period nationally accepted standards;

(6) Strengthening the redistributive bias of public policies and services in favour of the poor contributing to a reduction in inequalities of income and wealth;

(7) A progressive reduction in regional inequalities in the pace of development and in the diffusion of technological benefits;

(8) Promoting policies for controlling the growth of population through voluntary acceptance of the small family norm;

(9) Bringing about harmony between the short and the long term goals of development by promoting the protection and improvement of ecological and environmental assets; and

(10) Promoting the active involvement of all sections of the people in the process of development through appropriate education, communication and institutional strategies.

Q. Name the following:

(i) President of Iran; (ii) Prime Minister of Iran; (iii) Prime Minister of China; (iv) Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha; (v) Prime Minister of Botswana; (vi) India's Ambassador to the U.S.A.; (vii) Governor-General of Fiji Islands; (viii) President of South Korea; (ix) Chairman of the India Tourism Development Corporation of India; (x) Foreign Minister of Japan.

Ans. (i) Abolhassan Banisadr; (ii) Mohammad Ali Rajai; (iii) Zha Ziyang; (iv) Shyam Lal Yadav; (v) Quett Masire; (vi) K.R. Narayanan; (vii) Sir George Cakobau; (viii) Gen

Chon Doo-Hwan; (ix) S.K. Mishra; (x) Masayoshi Ito.

Q. Give the years in which the following events took place:

(i) Asoka's conquest of Kalinga; (ii) Foundation of Vijayanagar; (iii) Battle of Talikota; (iv) Foundation of East India Company; (v) India becomes a sovereign democratic republic; (vi) China invades India.

Ans. (i) 261 B.C.; (ii) 1336 A.D.; (iii) 1564 A.D.; (iv) 1600; (v) 1950; (vi) 1962.

Q. Give the years of the following events:

(i) Trial of the Indian National Army men; (ii) First general election held in India; (iii) Liberation of Goa from the Portuguese; (iv) Battle of Haldighat Pass; (v) Assassination of Mahatma Gandhi.

Ans. (i) 1945; (ii) 1952; (iii) 1961; (iv) 1576; (v) 1948.

Q. Who founded the Mughal Empire in India?

Ans. Zahir-ud-Din Babar.

Q. In which century did the following live?

(i) Krishnadeva Raya; (ii) Shahjahan; (iii) Mohammad Tughlaq; (iv) Samudragupta; (v) Ashoka.

Ans. (i) 16th; (ii) 17th; (iii) 14th; (iv) 4th; (v) 3rd B.C.

Q. To which country did the following belong?—

(i) Alexander the Great; (ii) Hannibal; (iii) Fabius; (iv) Peter the Great; (v) Matternich.

Ans. (i) Greece; (ii) Spain; (iii) Italy; (iv) Russia; (v) Austria.

Q. Answer the following questions:

(i) Who succeeded Jehangir as the Emperor of Delhi?

(ii) When did non-co-operation movement start in India?

(iii) In which year was the second battle of Panipat fought?

(iv) On what date did India become a Republic?

(v) Who was the last but one Viceroy of India?

Ans. (i) Shah Jehan; (ii) 1920; (iii) 1556; (iv) January 26, 1950; (v) Lord Wavell.

Q. Answer the following questions:

(i) Who was the hero of the American Civil War of Independence?

(ii) Name two prominent writers who inspired the French Revolution.

(iii) Which class of society was in the forefront in the Russian Revolution?

(iv) In which country did the Industrial Revolution in Europe start, and in which century?

Ans. (i) George Washington; (ii) Rousseau and Voltaire; (iii) Bolsheviks; (iv) England; 18th century.

Q. Name the field of activity in which the following persons had/have earned their reputation:

(i) Ronald Amundsen; (ii) Peter Sellers; (iii) Munshi Prem Chand; (iv) Dr M.C. Modi; (v) Mother Teresa; (vi) Odysseus Elytis; (vii) Prof Abdus Salam; (viii) Sohrab Modi; (ix) Naseeruddin Shah; (x) Charles Chaplin.

Ans. (i) Exploration. (He discovered the South Pole in 1912.)

(ii) Film acting. (He had played a wide variety of comedy roles in more than 40 films.)

(iii) Novel-writing. (He was a noted novelist who wrote in Hindi and Urdu. His birth centenary was celebrated on June 31, 1980.)

(iv) Social service. (He is well-known for his free eye camps and mass eye operations. He has been awarded U.N. Peace Medal for his outstanding work in trying to eradicate blindness.)

(Contd. on page 183)

Argumentative Questions ON CURRENT PROBLEMS

- **Can Communal Riots be Checked ?**
- **Should Legal Profession be Nationalised ?**
- **Diplomacy and Honesty**
- **Vain Search for New Order**

Can Communal Riots be Checked ?

Q. "Tension between the country's major communities and the communal riots that take such a heavy toll of life are a permanent feature of life." Give arguments *For* and *Against* this view.

Ans. The spurt of communal riots in the country in 1980 and the heavy loss of life and property, not to speak of the frightening scars such disturbances leave in the affected areas, have prompted several questions of far-reaching importance. Are such riots inevitable in India's existing set-up? Why do Hindus and Muslims fight each other every few months? Can't they come to some sort of an understanding about the places of worship, religious processions and slaughter of animals—the major causes of the rioting? Why is it that such tensions continue even after three decades of Independence? Rioting was not rare even during British rule, but many people then thought that the foreigners were pursuing a policy of "divide and rule" and that they deliberately encouraged one community against the other so that their own indispensability may become obvious. But there is no third party in the country now, and yet thousands of cases of communal riots have taken place

since partition. The loss in terms of life and property is virtually incalculable.

Arguments For the View

1. Communal riots in certain areas where the Muslims live in sizable numbers have become a regular feature, and whatever the administration might do to ease tensions, there is bound to be recurring trouble because the deeper causes have not been tackled.

2. The Muslims have, and presumably will continue to have, certain grievances, real or imaginary, about their position in the country, their share in the civil and armed services, in business and industry. The majority community, of course, has the lion's share of the services and the key posts, but the Muslims expect that they would get more than their proportionate share, even though recruitment to the services is not done on a communal basis but through open competitive examinations in which Muslims, like all other communities, are free to appear and take their chance on merit.

3. So long as some foreign countries, especially Pakistan, harbours aggressive elements which deliberately encourage communalism in India so as to exploit the situation for political propaganda against this country in international forums, com-

munal amity in the riot-prone areas cannot be assured. Recent incidents in Moradabad, where several hundred innocent people were killed, indicated that Pakistani elements were at work to create mischief. At certain other centres also the foreign hand is suspected. It may be noted that arms have been smuggled from Pakistan to U.P., and about 70,000 Pakistanis are overstaying in India beyond their periods of permits and visas.

4. Somehow the mutual suspicions among both communities continue, and the number of Muslims who really believe that the Government of India follows a truly secular policy is small. Even though India is bound by the Constitution to pursue secularism, the Muslims believe that the Hindus are anti-Muslim and are determined to eliminate them from Indian society. There are no signs of the truth and reality dawning upon the Muslims. Hence there is little likelihood of communal peace being ensured in the country on a permanent basis.

5. Another major cause is the apparently lasting belief that Muslims belong to a different culture, a different ethnic origin and a different nation. All efforts at national integration have failed. Riots are sparked off at even minor provocations.

Arguments Against the View

1. The two-nation theory propounded by the late Mr Jinnah stands exploded, except in the minds of fanatics. As education spreads and more liberal-minded Muslim leaders emerge, there is bound to be better understanding, better inter-communal relations and greater harmony.

2. Unfortunately, no consistent campaign has been conducted in the country to ensure the goodwill of the Muslims, or to tackle and remove their grievances in a systematic manner. Only temporary and sporadic efforts are made after each riot, and then things are forgotten again. The National Integration Council and other similar bodies set up with much fanfare every now and then exist largely on paper, and do not work at the grassroots level.

3. There is no doubt that Muslims are not adequately represented in the civil services in proportion to their numerical strength. The Centre and the State Governments go all out to accommodate the Scheduled Castes and Tribes and ensure adequate reservations for them and give them appointments regardless of merit. Why are similar concessions not extended to the Muslims to win their goodwill and remove a long-standing grievance? If most or all their grievances are removed, communalism will diminish. Riots can thus be avoided and harmony assured. The Blacks in the U.S.A., and the Jews in many countries do live peacefully wherever they are.

4. Greater control is obviously needed over the manufacture and distribution of illicit, unlicensed arms. At present there are scores of small factories in various towns which manufacture rifles and pistols. Moreover, revolvers are often smuggled from Pakistan to India for supply to anti-social elements in riot-prone areas like Morada-

bad, Aligarh, Jamshedpur and Baroda.

5. Moreover, the majority community must show a greater sense of accommodation to the Muslims in all spheres of life and ensure their confidence. The virus of communalism can indeed be checked by a sustained campaign, not by periodic efforts which make little impact. No group should be allowed to raise the bogey of communalism in any circumstances. All legislators should form harmony committees in their constituencies; at present they make no effort to ensure communal amity. The "codes of conduct" must not remain on office files only but should be sincerely implemented.

Should Legal Profession be Nationalised ?

Q. "The profession of advocates should be nationalised and the fees charged by all lawyers should be regulated by Government." Do you agree with this view? Present the case For and Against this view.

Ans. It is well known that the vast and growing tribe of lawyers fleece their clients, charge them exorbitant fees and, while living in ease and comfort themselves, they pay very little income tax. Lawyers are, in fact, regarded by many people as a menace to society; they feed on the people's disputes and develop a vested interest in prolonging litigation so that they may be able to charge heavier fees from the hapless clients. They are not so anxious to secure justice for aggrieved people as to make money. So the demand has been growing that the profession of advocates should be taken over by the Government in order to prevent the exploitation of the litigants. It has also been suggested that if the legal profession is difficult to nationalise, steps should be taken to regulate the fees which the lawyers of various categories

charge. Such control would prevent exploitation of the people, and also prevent the leading lawyers from evading tax on their large incomes. But the issue is not so simple; the complications and difficulties make a State takeover or control almost impracticable.

Arguments For the View

1. The activities of lawyers, the high fees they charge and the manner in which they encourage litigation among the people by holding out false hopes even in weak cases have all aroused much public resentment. The only way out is to nationalise the profession.

2. Litigation is virtually an affliction; it is both time-consuming and money-consuming. It is true that lawyers cannot be dispensed with altogether but if State regulation is assured, many of the malpractices in which the lawyers indulge would be eliminated in due course. For instance, the practice of employing touts who entice litigants on a commission basis would end.

3. Surely, some check should be imposed on the scale of fees many lawyers charge from their clients. It is well known that several top lawyers live more luxuriously than even Ministers; they enrich themselves at the cost of the litigants and benefit both ways, like the proverbial cat posing to be fair and just to both parties but in the end eating up the disputed property.

4. There are nearly 20,000 lawyers in the Soviet Union, but none of them is allowed to charge more than 1500 roubles in a month. The minimum income is also guaranteed by the State (600 roubles) and in most cases the fees are fixed by the Executive Committee of the Bar Association or the Ministry of Justice. Similar steps could be taken in India.

5. The lawyers as a class tend to act in a reactionary

manner and to defend the *status quo* and favour stability; hence they are seldom progressive in outlook. An honest, upright and incorruptible legal profession is necessary for ensuring justice, and justice must also seem to have been done. Nationalisation is, therefore, advisable.

Arguments Against the View

1. The Soviet example is hardly valid for India because in the Socialist set-up all lawyers are required to be votaries of the Communist system, and to ensure conformity to the party ideology all lawyers have to follow the official line. What Russia has is a "committed" legal profession.

2. Lawyers are indispensable and each citizen who has a complaint against another or against the State should be free to engage any lawyer in whom he has confidence. Such a choice will not be possible under State control, and the whole purpose of the free legal system would then be lost.

3. The proposal to make all lawyers employees of the State who would have to be paid by the Government is impracticable and undesirable. The legal work would suffer and the financial burden on the Government would be very heavy in a large country of India's size.

4. Under the Indian Constitution everyone is free to adopt any profession he or she likes. To nationalise the profession would amount to denying to the lawyers the freedom of profession they are entitled to.

5. No suit by the citizen against the arbitrary actions of the Government would be possible under a nationalised system because all lawyers would defend the State and no lawyer would plead forcefully for the aggrieved citizen.

6. As for imposing a ceiling on lawyers' incomes and the plea for fixing each lawyer's fees, this too is hardly practicable. Cases differ in complexity and duration, and no accurate yardstick can be prescribed for lawyers. Nor is it possible for the State to stop engaging lawyers to defend the Government's action on a daily fee or on a consolidated fee for the whole case. Fees vary according to the standing, professional experience and qualifications of the lawyer; it is advisable to leave the citizen free to engage anyone whom he likes. Therefore, it is not practicable to fix the fees of advocates. Besides, those who cannot afford to pay high fees should engage less costly lawyers. This would help avoid concentration of wealth and also give work to idle briefless lawyers.

Diplomacy and Honesty

Q. "An Ambassador is an honest man who is sent abroad to lie for the good of his country." Do you agree with this view expressed by Sir Henry Wotton, once a British Ambassador? Give reasons For and Against this view.

Ans. Diplomacy has for centuries been regarded as a complex art requiring the capacity to tell lies whenever necessary, to work secretly like a spy, to hide the truth, to maintain pretences and to be able to fulfil formalities, mix with people as often as necessary without giving away any secret. Machiavelli, in his famous book "The Prince", describes the complex techniques of this art. Diplomacy concerns itself with the art and methods employed by the State through its agents in the process of implementation of foreign policy and in pursuit of its other interests. Diplomacy and foreign policy are inter-connected; foreign policy determines the strategy, diplomacy the tactics. But must a

diplomat always tell lies? Won't he lose all credibility if he makes one misleading statement after another and acquires the dubious reputation of a liar? Of course, honesty and frankness must not be carried too far, but several distinguished diplomats now believe that honesty is the best diplomacy.

Arguments For the View

1. Unless a diplomat becomes a polished liar and deceiver, he cannot be successful in his profession. If he tells the truth and is always frank, he betrays vital secrets and lets down his Government. His basic duty is to safeguard the interests of his Government by hook or crook.

2. The real and sly role of a diplomat has been known throughout history. In India, Kautilya's Arthashastra outlines the functions of a diplomat and provides an exhaustive treatise on statecraft. Kautilya envisaged the maintenance of a system of spies, secret service agents and espionage if a prince wants to effectively safeguard his kingdom. This has to be ensured by every possible means, fair and foul. A very principled and scrupulous man cannot succeed as a diplomat.

3. It is only trickery that ensures good dividends. Note the handsome gains made by the Big Powers through clever diplomacy, luring unwary governments and political leaders and exploiting them to suit their own ends. Just as business is business, similarly diplomacy is diplomacy, and means justify the ends.

4. Just as everything is fair in love and war, everything is fair in diplomacy, and diplomats know this quite well. If a diplomat has not learnt the trick of warding off inquisitive people who may be out to get at diplomatic secrets, including military secrets, he cannot become a

successful diplomat. The Hindu "Niti Shastras" define the means and methods of diplomacy as "chatur upaya" (clever devices); "sama", "dana", "bheda" and "danda". For gaining vital objectives, therefore, all sorts of methods and techniques were considered permissible. Persuasion, gifts and even rupture ("bheda") are permitted when other methods fail. If a diplomat insists on scrupulous honesty and truthfulness, he better not take up the duties of a diplomat.

Arguments Against the View

1. While it is true that a diplomat must not be a fool or a simpleton, he should be honest, otherwise he would lose credibility and the next time his colleagues meet him, they would take his statements with much more than the proverbial pinch of salt.

2. Plain trickery could perhaps bring good gains in the past, but with the passage of time liar-diplomats are disliked; they are soon recalled by their Governments and are regarded as *persona non grata* (undesirable people). Now every diplomat (or almost everyone) learns to trust another and to deal with him fairly and in a straightforward manner. Otherwise, he is shunned and avoided by other members of the diplomatic corps posted in the same capital.

3. Without sincerity and honest intentions diplomats can hardly deliver the goods. Patience is indispensable, but honesty is equally desirable. In diplomacy, as in other human relations, one can earn genuine respect only by fairness and honest dealings. Other diplomats surely know the strength and weakness of their counterparts. Besides, truth will always be out, like murder. And when the liar is exposed, he proves a total flop, and is laughed at.

4. The method of defending one's Government in every

case, right or wrong, need not imply cheating or telling lies. The expression of a certain viewpoint, even if not very convincing, can be free from untruths and falsehood. It should be possible to put the best gloss on certain events without lies which are bound to get exposed in course of time. What is needed is not cheating or deception in modern international diplomacy but compromise, tactfulness and a capacity to present a case in the best possible light. Good oratory, polished manners, loyalty, a good temperament, generous hospitality (with or without drinks) and other entertainment, besides the capacity to negotiate successfully, can achieve wonders without crossing the threshold of truth. The times of persistently lying and of "vish kanyas" ("poison spies") is gone, never to return. Tact and good manners are, however, indispensable.

Vain Search for New Order

Q. "The search for a new international economic order has yielded nothing and should be given up because it merely means a waste of time and money." Give reasons *For* and *Against* this view.

Ans. For decades the Third World, the "Group of 77" and the economically hard-hit nations, individually and collectively, have been trying to persuade the affluent countries (the highly industrialised group) to share their prosperity by pointing out to them that prosperity, like poverty, cannot remain an isolated phenomenon. But all the UNCTAD and other conferences have been of little avail. Poverty continues and is even increasing, with about half the world still living below the poverty line. This is due to the unfair and unjust distribution of the world's wealth, and the rich minority's persistent refusal to show consideration to the

brethren in distress. Ironically, almost every international conference virtually means a setback to the cause of a new and more equitable economic order. The farce of highly expensive and time-consuming international conferences should therefore end. It yields nothing; in fact with every such confrontation between the North and the South the richer nations have been becoming more rigid in their attitudes and disclaiming all responsibility for the sorry plight of the poor millions.

Arguments For the View

1. The demand for a New International Economic Order (NIEO) at various world forums has been virtually reduced to an empty slogan to which no one pays any attention. True, the adoption by the U.N. of a declaration calling for the establishment of a just international economic order aroused high hopes. But apart from booming phrases and skilled oratory, the world's hungry millions have secured nothing. Why continue the colossal waste?

2. With every international conference devoted to the cause of economic justice the rigidity and inflexibility of the general approach of the rich are becoming apparent. Now their stand seems to be that since they are in no way responsible for the plight of the world's poor, they have no moral and, of course, no legal responsibility to improve their standard of living. There is no sign of a change in their attitude.

3. Not to speak of active assistance to relieve the misery of the poor millions, the prosperous North has not stopped even the various means of economic exploitation of the backward regions. Protectionism is now a definite policy and exploitation through multinationals also continues. Power politics, defence strategy and outmanoeuvring tactics compel the

Big Powers to hold on to their bases. This means that there is no hope of peace and amity which are vital to economic well-being.

4. Even the preparation of World Bank and other reports about the extent of world poverty and the worsening of the plight of the suffering majority is a fruitless exercise. None of the affluent nations' spokesmen bother about these reports. The deadlock continues while the affluent countries continue to acquire more and more assets. The economic disparities are, in fact, widening and have become even more glaring since the U.N. adopted the resolutions favouring the establishment of a new economic world order.

5. In August-September, 1980, a special session of the U.N. General Assembly was held specifically to consider the Third World's demand for a new economic order and to set the stage for a comprehensive dialogue. The session was a virtual failure; it could not pass any concrete resolution and ended without much hope for the needy millions.

Arguments Against the View

1. True, the world's prosperous nations are at present disinclined to share their prosperity and even their technical knowhow or their industrial capacity with the poor regions, but will things be any better if the effort is abandoned as a hopeless case? While there can be some hope for the poor through continuing persuasion, there can be none at all if all attempts are given up and the rich are left alone to live as they like. Moral pressure is bound to prove effective sooner or later.

2. A major cause of the failure of the rich-poor dialogue has been the discord in the Third World which constitutes the majority of mankind. There is a section of the Third World

which supports the demand only superficially because they get assistance from the affluent group secretly and in various ways. Besides, the OPEC countries, which are flushed with wealth, are not doing much to relieve the hardships of the poor, except in certain countries on grounds of religion (Islam). If OPEC continue to add to their assets through petro-dollars, and fleece the hard-hit developing nations like India, how can we blame the affluent West for pursuing selfish policies? The fact is that self-aggrandisement is a fast spreading malaise in North, South and West.

3. It may be true that at present the U.S.A. and other "haves" have no political will to aid the poor, but through continuous propaganda such a will

can and should be created. Very little has been done to educate public opinion in the developed countries. This task should now be taken up. After all, the people there are not so heartless and indifferent to the plight of their fellow-men. They may seek, in due course, to persuade their governments to be more reasonable and considerate.

4. The world is again on the brink of a political impasse on the issue of a North-South dialogue, but it would be surrendering to a counsel of despair to call off the talks and abandon the effort altogether. Radical changes like the one envisaged in NIEO take decades to come about. Meanwhile, aid without strings should be the rule.

G. K. TEST (Contd. from page 178)

(v) Social service. (She has been awarded Bharat Ratna (1980) and Nobel Peace Prize (1979) in recognition of her work in bringing help to suffering humanity.)

(vi) Literature. (He is recipient of the 1979 Nobel Prize in literature.)

(vii) Physics. (He is the first Pakistani to win a Nobel Prize. He is co-sharer of the 1979 Nobel Prize in Physics.)

(viii) Film acting and direction. (He is recipient of the 1979 Dadasaheb Phalke Award.)

(ix) Film acting. (He won the Best Actor award for 1979.)

(x) Film acting. (He was a great comedian.)

Q. Fill up the blanks:

(i) Aurora Borealis is a light phenomenon seen at night in the—hemisphere.

(ii) Roaring Forties are westerly winds blowing throughout the year over the oceans of the—hemisphere.

(iii) Continental climate is the type of climate occurring in the temperate zone in the—

hemisphere.

(iv) Planets are spherical bodies which revolve round the

(v) Equator is an imaginary line encircling the earth at equal distance from the—.

A n s. (i) northern; (ii) southern; (iii) northern; (iv) Sun; (v) Poles.

Q. Fill up the blanks:

(i) Salal Project is a hydro-electric project envisaging the construction of a dam over the river—.

(ii) "I came, I saw, I conquered" is a quotation associated with—.

(iii) Belgrade is the capital of—.

(iv) Lucknow is situated on the river—.

(v) On the collision of two oppositely charged clouds, a spark is produced along with a great sound. The impression which thus appears in the sky is known as—.

Ans. (i) Chenab; (ii) Julius Caesar; (iii) Yugoslavia; (iv) Gomti; (v) thunderbolt.

Readers' Forum

Reproduced below is letter No. 3 (7) ENQ/71 Vol. II dated the 4th Sept., 1980 received from Shri S.M. Bagai, Secretary, Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission, Travancore House, Kasturba Gandhi Marg, Post Box No. 424, New Delhi—110 001 commenting on the scheme of the MRTP Act.

—Editor

“Please refer to page 97 of the *Competition Master* of September 80 relating to the “Economic Scene” wherein under the heading *MRTP Act—a hurdle?* you have stated *inter-alia* as follows:

“In the first instance, industries governed under the MRTP Act have to seek the approval of the Commission to expansion or to setting up new undertakings even if no licence is required under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, for this purpose. The consequent delays hamper rapid growth.

“Even in cases where employment opportunities were provided as a part of expansion or setting up of new undertakings, clearance of the MRTP Act had been a pre-requisite. This means joblessness till such time as the MRTP Commission okays the project.

“In cases where no licensing obligations are to be fulfilled, one has to wait for the green signal from the MRTP Commission.

“The Commission rejects proposals for expansion/new undertakings on flimsy grounds such as the existing capacity is adequate for the domestic demand; there is power shortage. Are these ‘flimsy’ excuses or realities? No critic can deny that they are stark facts. Many industries have idle capacity and many cannot operate optimally for want of power or other inputs. . . .”

In this connection, I would like to furnish correct information about the scheme of the MRTP Act as under:

The authority under the Monopolies and Restrictive

Trade Practices Act “MRTP Act” to dispose of applications for expansion of undertakings, establishment of new undertakings, mergers, take-overs and amalgamations is the Central Govt. and not the Commission. The applications are made to the Central Govt. and are normally disposed of by them except when the Central Govt. is of the view that further inquiry is necessary, in which case, such applications are referred to the Commission.

The Commission was constituted on August 6, 1970. The references received by the Commission from the Central Government since its inception to December, 1977 numbered 59. The total number of effective applications received by the Central Government for clearance during the same period was 618. It will be seen that less than 10% of the applications made to the Govt. were referred to the Commission for enquiry.

Of the few cases referred to the Commission, 15 proposals were withdrawn by the applicants after Govt. had referred them to the Commission for inquiry; two proposals could not be proceeded with, because the applicants were de-registered under the provisions of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act. In one case the inquiry was stayed as the applicant filed a writ. Of the 41 reports submitted by the Commission to the Central Govt., the Commission recommended approval of 33 proposals, subject to certain conditions and recommended rejection of 8

proposals. The Govt. agreed with the Commission in respect of the cases rejected but out of the 33 cases where the Commission had approved the proposals, the Govt. concurred with the Commission’s views in 30 cases.

It would thus be seen that in matter relating to the concentration of economic power, the Commission’s role is only advisory and even if the Commission recommends the proposals, it is for the Central Govt. to accept or reject such a recommendation. There has been no delay on the part of the Commission in submitting its reports in such of the cases as were referred to it.

The Commission’s main function so far has been to keep vigil over and control trade practices which stifle competition (known as Restrictive Trade Practices). All over the world there are Anti-trust Laws to ensure that the market forces of supply and demand operate freely because the framers of the legislation feel that by promoting competition, consumer protection and industrial efficiency is attained. In this field, the Monopolies Commission, as elsewhere, acts as an independent and judicial body which passes orders after hearing all the parties concerned. Surely, your indictment of the Commission has not taken into account this aspect of the Commission’s role. I hope, in all fairness, you will publish this letter so that the misunderstanding created by your article in the mind of your readers is removed.

Objective-Type Tests

GENERAL STUDIES

The latest pattern of written papers in the competitive examinations for recruitment in Banking, Civil and Defence Services is based on Objective-Type Tests.

Answers are given at the end of this feature. Look to the answers only after you have yourself solved all the questions.

Work as fast and as carefully as you can.

Tick-mark the correct choice.

More than one choice can be correct.

1. Magsaysay Award for 'international understanding' for 1980 has been awarded to a:

- (a) Chinese
- (b) Burmese
- (c) Vietnamese
- (d) Japanese

2. The *New Hebrides Islands*, the South Sea Archipelago, became an independent nation on July 29, 1980 under the name of:

- (a) Dominica
- (b) Vanuatu
- (c) St Vincent and Grenadines
- (d) Tuvalu

3. Which U.S. unmanned orbiting spacecraft ended its mission recently having run out of fuel?

- (a) Voyager-I
- (b) Viking-I
- (c) Pioneer-11
- (d) Pioneer-Venus-1

4. The Soviet spacecraft Soyuz-37 carried a Russian cosmonaut along with a:

- (a) Hungarian scientist
- (b) East German scientist
- (c) Vietnamese scientist

5. Between 1975-79, India's population registered a growth rate of:

- (a) 1 per cent

- (b) 2 per cent

- (c) 2½ per cent

6. In February, 1981, the nude statue of Jain sage will be completing:

- (a) 500 years of its existence
- (b) 1000 years of its existence
- (c) 2000 years of its existence

7. The State Bank of India, which is celebrating its silver jubilee this year, has now more than:

- (a) 3000 branches
- (b) 4000 branches
- (c) 5000 branches

8. On April 30, 1980, the figure of unemployed in India stood at more than:

- (a) 12 million
- (b) 14 million
- (c) 20 million

9. The Indian State which occupies the second position among the states in *per capita* income is:

- (a) Punjab
- (b) Maharashtra
- (c) Gujarat
- (d) Rajasthan

10. Zimbabwe (formerly Rhodesia) has been admitted to the U.N.O. as its:

- (a) 151st member
- (b) 152nd member
- (c) 153rd member

11. The British Pacific dependency of the Gilbert Islands had become a fully independent republic within the Commonwealth (as the 41st member state) on July 12, 1979, under the name of:

- (a) Tuvalu
- (b) Grenadines
- (c) Kiribati

12. India holds world championship in:

- (a) Badminton
- (b) Tennis
- (c) Billiards
- (d) Cricket

13. The Unit Trust of India sells its units at a low price in the month of:

- (a) June
- (b) September
- (c) July
- (d) December
- (e) April

14. What is Operation Flood?

- (a) to control floods
- (b) to make measures before flood
- (c) to resettle the victims of flood

15. Where is Flamingo Sanctuary?

- (a) Tamil Nadu
- (b) Gujarat
- (c) Andamans
- (d) Rajasthan
- (e) None of these

16. Which planet has rings like Saturn as photographed by U.S. Voyager-I spacecraft:

- Venus
- Uranus
- Pluto
- Jupiter
- None of these

17. The main export from Egypt to India is:

- Date palm
- Cotton
- Cashewnuts
- Coconut
- None of these

18. The main cause of Assam agitation is:

- to expel all non-Assamese
- to get more territory for Assam
- to expel all foreigners permanently settled in Assam
- to get more facilities for the Assamese
- None of these

19. The final draft framework of the Sixth Plan as approved by the National Development Council aims at an average growth rate of:

- 5 per cent
- 5.3 per cent
- 5.5 per cent
- 6 per cent
- None of these

20. The final draft framework of the Sixth Plan envisages industrial production to grow at an annual rate of:

- 5 to 6 per cent
- 7 to 8 per cent
- 8 to 9 per cent
- 9 to 10 per cent

21. The proposed outlay in (i) public sector and (ii) private sector in the Sixth Plan is:

- Rs. 50,000 crores and Rs. 36,000 crores respectively
- Rs. 70,000 crores and Rs. 46,000 crores respectively

(c) Rs. 90,000 crores and Rs. 66,000 crores respectively

(d) Rs. 100,000 crores and Rs. 86,000 crores respectively

22. The main objective of education development in the Sixth Plan will be to ensure essential minimum education to all children up to the age of:

- 12 years in the next 10 years
- 13 years in the next 10 years
- 14 years in the next 10 years
- 15 years in the next 10 years

23. The final draft framework of the Sixth Plan aims at agricultural production to grow at a rate of:

- 4 per cent
- 5 per cent
- 6 per cent
- 7 per cent

24. Bharatiya Jnanpith Award for 1979 has been awarded to a well-known:

- Hindi poet
- Assamese poet
- Bengali poet
- Gujarati poet

25. Dada Saheb Phalke award for 1979 has been awarded to:

- Shoba
- Satyajit Ray
- Sohrab Modi
- Nargis Dutt

26. The number of nationalised banks in India is now:

- 20
- 14
- 21
- 28

27. The 1982 Asian Games will be held at:

- Los Angeles
- Kuala Lumpur
- New Delhi
- Lahore

28. The most commonly found blood group is:

- O
- AB
- A
- B

29. Who among the following is a famous violinist:

- Ravi Shankar
- Bismillah Khan
- R.D. Burman
- Yehudi Menuhin

30. What percentage of India's population is living below poverty line?

- 40
- 50
- 60
- 70

31. In which dance style masks are worn:

- Kathakali
- Manipuri
- Kathak
- Odissi

32. The Consumer Price Index has its base year (-100):

- 1960
- 1961
- 1962
- 1970

33. The Wholesale Price Index has its base year (=100):

- 1960-61
- 1965-66
- 1970-71
- 1974-75

34. Which Bill becomes law even if the Rajya Sabha ignores it:

- Finance Bill
- Defence Bill
- Ordinary Bill
- Constituent Amendment Bill

35. North-South Dialogue means:

- A group of North South countries
- A dialogue between North and South Korea
- A dialogue between the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R
- A dialogue between developed and underdeveloped countries

(Contd. on page 198)

Objective-Type Tests

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Look to the answers at the end only after you have yourself solved all the questions.

Work as fast and as carefully as you can.

Q. I. Indicate by its number the portion of each sentence in which a mistake occurs.

(a) In the reign of Caesar (1) the country was divided into provinces (2) and the provinces placed under magistrates (3).

(b) I never have (1) and never will (2) advise my children to enter politics (3).

(c) The burden of his speech was (1) that we should not abuse (2) our hardly-won freedom (3).

(d) To write, to speak or to act (1) seem uncommonly easy (2) to those who have never tried (3).

(e) Little was done by him to help me (1) but, needy as I was, I wanted him (2) to do much more (3).

(f) The candidates were asked to bring (1) to the examination hall (2) ink, pen and paper, the latter to be foolscap (3).

(g) Being deaf, I shouted my words (1) in his ears at the top of my voice (2) but he did not hear them (3).

(h) Success and failure will not affect one (1) who is interested in the performance of duty (2) for the sake of duty (3).

(i) As he made a mention of his dead mother (1) his lips quivered (2) and tears flowed down his cheeks (3).

(j) He cannot be excused (1) because he has committed (2) not one but many mischiefs (3).

(k) It is a common experience (1) that the further you go from home (2) the more you begin to love it (3).

(l) Suppose if you do not fulfil your promise (1) what punishment do you propose (2) to be imposed on you? (3).

Q. II. Pick out the appropriate alternative in each case.

(a) About fifty stations, all located in big cities ~~are~~—.

- (1) over the air
- (2) in the air
- (3) on the air

(b) Prices of cigarettes have registered a steep rise; I shall have to—my daily intake.

- (1) cut away
- (2) cut down
- (3) cut off

(c) Because of his lavish habits, he now finds himself—in debt.

- (1) over head and ears
- (2) head over ear
- (3) between head and ears

(d) After the sermon in the church, the entire—stood up and reverently bowed before the statue of Christ.

- (1) assembly
- (2) audience
- (3) congregation

(e) The work-load in our office has considerably increased and with the best of intentions the staff cannot—with the work.

- (1) cope up

- (2) cope down
- (3) cope

(f) It was a—battle and decided the fate of the French in India.

- (1) memorial
- (2) memorable
- (3) momentary

(g) Scarcely had I bolted the door—a loud knocking chilled our bones.

- (1) than
- (2) that
- (3) when

(h) Finding that I frequently complained of sleeplessness the doctor prescribed for me—.

- (1) a sedative
- (2) an intoxicant
- (3) a soporific

(i) The—of the skin may differ, but the blood is always red.

- (1) complexion
- (2) hue
- (3) colour

(j) Tired and hungry as we were, we fell—the food as vultures and wolves.

- (1) on
- (2) at
- (3) for

Q. III. Give one word for the italicized part of each sentence.

(a) Crushed bones and cow-dung *can make* the soil *highly productive*.

(b) His foolish behaviour may *put* his whole career *in danger*.

(c) The fear of war grew when the people learnt that the army was *getting into action*.

(d) If you always *stretch things beyond what they really are*, people will no longer believe you.

(e) The gang tried to *fill the merchant with fear* so as to get his signatures on the dotted line.

Q. IV. Indicate in each case the sentence in which the headword has been correctly used.

A. Restrict

(a) If you repeat the mistake, I shall have to be restrict.

(b) The High Court has passed restricts on the Lower Court.

(c) In view of long illness the doctor has restricted my diet.

B. Discard

(a) There was considerable discard in the party over the selection of the candidates for the mid-term poll.

(b) When the weather gets warm we discard our winter clothing.

(c) It is on the discards that there will be a military coup in that country.

C. Depress

(a) He depressed me again and again to go to the carnival but I refused.

(b) When negotiations break down, the government will depress the movement with an iron hand.

(c) The sad news depressed me all day.

D. Tally

(a) The air-crash took a very heavy tally of lives.

(b) The cheque-book stubs do not tally with my bank statement.

(c) For days I tallied with the idea of spending my holidays in the Kashmir valley.

E. Indigent

(a) Many indigent people received government aid.

(b) The actress was indigent at the awkward questions put by the interviewer.

(c) Indigent cotton is far superior to the imported variety.

Q. V. Pick out the correct meaning of the idioms.

A. A snake in the grass.

(a) a green snake

(b) a dangerous enemy

(c) unsuspected danger

(d) a harmless person

B. Flog a dead horse.

(a) to act in a foolish way
(b) to get too much work out of some one

(c) to revive interest in a subject which is no longer of any interest

(d) to waste one's efforts

C. To make one's pile.

(a) to build one's house

(b) to make a fortune

(c) to deposit dirt at one place

(d) to hit one's target

D. To fly off the handle.

(a) to lose one's temper

(b) to be indifferent

(c) to grow violent

(d) to dislocate

E. To read between the lines.

(a) to ignore the main subject

(b) to waste one's time

(c) to understand the hidden meaning

(d) to suspect a person

Q. VI. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given at the end.

The only country which has yet awakened to the extension of social responsibility is Russia. When the Soviet Government undertook to change over from capitalism to communism it found itself without any instruments for the maintenance of

order except a lot of crimes and punishments administered through a ritual of criminal law. And in the list of crimes the very worst offences against communist society had no place! On the contrary they were highly honoured and rewarded. As our English doggerel runs, the courts could punish a man for stealing the goose from off the common, but not the man who stole the common from the goose. The idler, that common enemy of mankind who robs everybody all the time, though he is so carefully protected from having his own pocket picked, incurred no penalty, and had actually passed the most severe laws against any interference with his idling. It was the business of the Soviet to make all business public business and all persons public servants; but the view of the ordinary Russian citizen was that a post in a public service was an exceptional stroke of good luck for the holder because it was a sinecure carrying with it the privilege of treating the public insolently and extorting bribes from it. For example, when the Russian railways were communized some of the local station masters interpreted the change as meaning that they might now be as lazy and careless as they pleased, whereas in fact it was of life-or-death importance that they should redouble their activity and strain every nerve to make the service efficient. The unfortunate commissar who was Minister of Transport found himself obliged to put a pistol in his pocket and with his own hand shoot station masters who had thrown his telegrams into the dustbin instead of attending to them, so that he might the more impressively ask the rest of the staff whether they yet grasped the fact that orders were meant to be executed.

(George Bernard Shaw)

q. 1. Which of the following is the most appropriate title to the passage:

- (a) Communist Russia and Railways
- (b) Change-over from Capitalism to Communism
- (c) Social Responsibility and Communism

q. 2. Some features of Capitalist Russia were:

- (a) Idlers were honoured. (Correct/Incorrect)
- (b) Government job was a privilege. (Correct/Incorrect)
- (c) Workers had a sense of responsibility. (Correct/Incorrect)
- (d) Corruption was quite common. (Correct/Incorrect)
- (e) Orders were treated with indifference. (Correct/Incorrect)

q. 3. Some features of Communistic Russia were:

- (a) All business was public business. (Correct/Incorrect)
- (b) There was strictness and efficiency. (Correct/Incorrect)
- (c) Any one could shoot any one else. (Correct/Incorrect)
- (d) The output of work doubled. (Correct/Incorrect)
- (e) All persons were public servants. (Correct/Incorrect)
- (f) Ministers carried pistols wherever they went. (Correct/Incorrect)

q. 4. Explain:

doggerel
sinecure
extort
strain every nerve
commissar

q. 5. What is Shaw's point in the incident introduced at the end of the passage?

ANSWERS

(Question I)

- (a) 3 (the provinces were placed)
- (b) 1 (I never have advised)
- (c) 3 (hard-won freedom)

- (d) 2 (seems unusually easy)
- (e) 1 (A little was done by him)
- (f) 3 (the last to be foolscap)
- (g) 1 (He being deaf)
- (h) 1 (Success or failure)
- (i) 1 (As he made mention of)
- (j) 3 (many acts of mischief)
- (k) 2 (the farther you go from home)
- (l) 1 (Suppose you do not) or (If you do not)

(Question II)

- (a) 3 (b) 2
- (c) 1 (d) 3
- (e) 3 (f) 2
- (g) 3 (h) 3
- (i) 3 (j) 1

(Question III)

- (a) fertilize (b) jeopardize
- (c) mobilizing (d) exaggerate
- (e) intimidate

(Question IV)

- A. (c) B. (b)
- C. (c) D. (b)
- E. (a)

(Question V)

- A. (c) B. (c)
- C. (b) D. (a)
- E. (c)

(Question VI)

- q. 1. (c)
- q. 2. (a) Correct
(b) Correct
(c) Incorrect
(d) Correct
(e) Correct
- q. 3. (a) Correct
(b) Correct
(c) Incorrect
(d) Correct
(e) Correct
(f) Incorrect

- q. 4. *doggerel*: poetry that is silly, often not intended to be serious.

sinecure: a position giving an income but with few or no duties.

extort: obtain by force or threats.

strain every nerve: do one's best.

commissar: the official name of a minister in the Soviet Government until 1946.

q. 5. The change-over from capitalism to communism was effected with sternness and even brute force. There were indifference and corruption in government offices and these were exterminated with a strong hand.

FASCINATING FACTS

(Contd. from page 174)

At the linguistic, phonetical stage a written text is converted into a phonetical description corresponding to what the human being needs to read the text naturally and comprehensively.

At the next stage of processing the phonetical text is converted into control signals for the speech synthesiser, while at the third and final stage the speech synthesiser is used to transform the control signal sequence into comprehensible speech signals.

Computers can already be taught to distinguish individually spoken command words, taken in isolation, with a degree of accuracy that is frequently superior to that of human beings.

But they are still much inferior to the human ear in distinguishing continuous speech. On this point research is still in its early days.

Yet it will be some time before the final objective, a completely free dialogue with the computer, is achieved.

Objective-Type Tests

EVERYDAY SCIENCE

Look to the answers at the end only after you have yourself solved all the questions.

Work as fast and as carefully as you can.

Tick-mark the correct answer out of the choices given.

1. An example of a synthetic fibre is:

- (a) silk
- (b) jute
- (c) terylene
- (d) cotton

2. Petroleum is found in India in the state of:

- (a) Madhya Pradesh
- (b) Bihar
- (c) Assam
- (d) Rajasthan

3. An example of an electrical conductor is:

- (a) diamond
- (b) graphite
- (c) marble
- (d) rubber

4. During galvanisation, iron is coated with:

- (a) Zinc
- (b) Tin
- (c) Copper
- (d) Chromium

5. An important plastic is known as:

- (a) DDT
- (b) PVC
- (c) TNT
- (d) BHC

6. The best transmitter of sound is:

- (a) gases
- (b) vapours
- (c) liquids
- (d) solids

7. The upper limit of audibility for most persons in cycles per second is about:

- (a) 10
- (b) 100
- (c) 2000
- (d) 20,000

8. When most solids are cooled they:

- (a) contract in length only
- (b) contract in breadth only
- (c) contract in both length and breadth
- (d) contract at the same rate

9. A book is lifted to a desk top. The book has acquired:

- (a) kinetic energy
- (b) potential energy
- (c) work
- (d) force

10. All of the following are scalars with the exception of:

- (a) length
- (b) density
- (c) force
- (d) mass

11. Experiments with fruit flies which led to an understanding of genes were carried on by:

- (a) Morgan
- (b) Mendel
- (c) Weismann
- (d) De Vries

12. Lamarck believed that the important factor in evolution was:

- (a) mutations

(b) acquired traits
(c) chromosomes
(d) hormones

13. Protoplasm is chiefly water and:

- (a) cellulose
- (b) minerals
- (c) protein
- (d) vacuoles

14. In studying the effects of radioactive fallout, scientists are disturbed by the increase in the number of cases of:

- (a) hemophilia
- (b) leukemia
- (c) yellow fever
- (d) tuberculosis

15. Mineral salts enter plants through their:

- (a) root hairs
- (b) leaves
- (c) bark
- (d) flowers

16. A drug classed as a stimulant is:

- (a) cocaine
- (b) caffeine
- (c) nicotine
- (d) morphine

17. The hormone that makes a person "fighting man" is:

- (a) thyroxin
- (b) adrenin
- (c) pituitrin
- (d) insulin

18. Cretinism is due to a defect of the:

- (a) thyroid gland
- (b) parathyroid gland

(c) adrenal gland
(d) pancreas gland

19. The cerebellum aids in controlling:

(a) peristalsis
(b) balance
(c) memory
(d) respiration

20. The liver stores carbohydrates in an insoluble form known as:

(a) glucose
(b) bile
(c) cellulose
(d) glycogen

21. For growing early spring vegetables, the best type of soil is:

(a) gravel soil
(b) sandy soil
(c) clay soil
(d) loam

22. For each 100 meters, a parcel of dry air rises, it:

(a) warms 1°C
(b) cools 1°C
(c) warms 5°F
(d) cools 0.6°C

23. Which one of the following would be least likely to cause moisture to condense from the air?

(a) radiation of heat at night
(b) mixing of warm air with cold
(c) downward motion of air
(d) upward motion of air

24. Desalting of sea water has not been done on a large scale because:

(a) it is too dangerous
(b) no one knows how
(c) it costs too much
(d) energy cannot be produced to do it

25. Which one of the following is not presently obtained from the sea in large amounts?

(a) salt
(b) bromine
(c) gold
(d) magnesium

Increases (I); Decreases (D); Remains the same (RS)

26. When the temperature of a body increases, the density of a body—.

27. When a ship passes from a river into sea-water, its height outside the water—.

28. When a gold ornament is weighed in water, its weight

29. When a body in neutral equilibrium is slightly disturbed, the height of its C.G.—.

30. A cyclist while rounding a curve leans more if the speed of the cycle—.

Explain

31. A special partition between two adjoining rooms will not transmit sound waves. How can you explain the fact that a

Column A

(a) Known to be caused by irritation from stone dust
(b) Prevented by a toxoid
(c) Treated with radioactive iodine
(d) Development prevented by the Pasteur treatment
(e) Prevented by proper sewage disposal

Fill in the blanks

37. Suggest the word or words required to complete each of the following statements.

(a) Small doses of narcotic drugs induce—; large doses produce—; and may even cause—.

(b) Gigantism is caused by overactivity of the—gland, which is located near the—.

(c) The blood gives up— and—and absorbs—while passing through the lungs.

(d) The moon makes one complete revolution about the earth in—days.

(e) Reference lines drawn parallel to the equator are called

sound produced in one room can be heard in the other?

32. Why is ice packed in saw-dust or wrapped in gunny bags?

33. In winter, why do birds sit with their wings spread out?

34. Why is it difficult to thread a needle with only one eye?

35. When a table fan is running at a high speed, to a person looking at its revolving blades, it appears that a solid disc is revolving instead of the blades. Explain.

36. Matching Test

Directions: Write the number of the disease in column B that is most closely associated with each statement in column A.

Column B

1. diphtheria
2. cretinism
3. dysentery
4. cancer
5. silicosis
6. rabies
7. poliomyelitis

Test your knowledge

38. When work is done, a force must cause 1. Work is calculated by multiplying 2 \times 3. A common unit of work is the 4. Any object that possesses energy is said to have the 4. Energy may be one of two kinds, 5 or 6. Energy is measured in work units. When an object is carried up a hill, it is given 6 energy.

This energy can be calculated by multiplying its 7 \times 8. A speeding car has 8. This energy increases 9 times when the speed is doubled.

Power, which is often confused with force, is a measure of

work done per 10. The common unit of power is the 11.

Scientific Abbreviations and Vocabulary

39. (a) Corona (b) Latitude
(c) Longitude (d) Prime meridian (e) AF.

ANSWERS

1. (c)	2. (c)
3. (b)	4. (a)
5. (b)	6. (d)
7. (d)	8. (c)
9. (b)	10. (c)
11. (a)	12. (b)
13. (c)	14. (b)
15. (a)	16. (b)
17. (b)	18. (a)
19. (b)	20. (d)
21. (d)	22. (b)
23. (d)	24. (c)
25. (c)	26. D
27. I	28. D
29. RS	30. I

31. The sound possesses the property of diffraction (bending round corners) and this enables a person to hear the sound of an adjoining room.

32. Saw dust and gunny bags contain air-holes. Air being a poor conductor, does not allow the external heat to enter. Therefore, the ice does not melt for a long time.

33. They do so in order to protect themselves from cold. By spreading their wings, they enclose a lot of air which is a poor conductor of heat. It does not allow the internal heat of the bird to escape.

34. One cannot estimate the relative *distance* between the thread and the walls of the hole of the needle with one eye. The thread, therefore, passes in front or behind the hole of the needle. The relative distance between the two points is, however, judged more easily with two eyes because they converge on the same object.

35. The image of an object formed on the retina of the eye remains for about 1/10th of a second after the object is re-

moved. When the fan is running at a high speed, the blades revolve with such a speed that one blade passes on in less than 1/10th of a second. We cannot, therefore, detect them moving separately and it appears that one solid disc is revolving.

36. (a) 5
(b) 1
(c) 4
(d) 6
(e) 7

37. (a) sleep; unconsciousness; death

(b) pituitary, brain
(c) carbon dioxide, water, oxygen

(d) 27-1/3 days

(e) parallels of latitude

38. 1. motion
2. force, distance
3. joule
4. ability to do work
5. potential, kinetic

6. gravitational potential
7. weight, height
8. kinetic energy
9. four
10. unit of time
11. watt

39. (a) A halo of light seen around the sun during a total eclipse.

(b) The distance, *north* or *south* of the equator, measured in *degrees*, and in subdivisions of degrees, which are expressed in *minutes* and *seconds*.

(c) The distance *east* or *west* of the prime meridian, measured in degrees, minutes and seconds.

(d) The meridian passing through Greenwich, England, is called the prime meridian and is designated as "Zero longitude".

(e) Audio-frequency (range between 20 and 1600 Hz).

MODEL PARAGRAPHS

(Contd. from page 170)

for. He rose to the occasion and led his country to victory and peace. Opportunity comes from on high but the question is whether we can reach up to it.

All colours will agree in the dark.

(Francis Bacon)

Colour is not a quality of objects; it is an interpretation given to the senses by the delicate functioning of the eye. Each object acts differently in response to light. If it reflects no light at all, it is black. When it is dark there is no light to be reflected and hence every colour looks alike. So also in the world of men. When things are normal we have our differences. We quarrel, we fight, we compete and struggle but

when an earthquake or a flood comes all differences are forgotten. In 1962 our politicians used to tear one another to pieces inside and outside the legislatures. But when the Chinese aggression came all differences were forgotten and we rose as one man to meet the challenge of the invader. Adversity obliterated all distinctions and differences. H.G. Wells, in his fantasy "The War of the Worlds" has imagined an invasion of the earth by the denizens of Mars. In the face of this calamity, all differences of nationality, language, political and economic ideology are forgotten and the earth presents a united front to the invaders from the enemy planet. Even the worst enemies have been known to shake hands in times of adversity.



SPORTS

ATHLETICS

A.A.F.I. President: Mr Buta Singh, Minister of State for Transport and Shipping, was re-elected President of the Amateur Athletic Federation of India at its annual general meeting at New Delhi on August 31.

World Record: Combining grace and power, Tatyana Kazel'mina of the USSR set a new world record in the 1500 metres race at Zurich on August 14. By covering the distance in 3 minutes 52.47 seconds, the Olympic champion improved upon her previous mark of 3 minutes 55.00 seconds.

BADMINTON

Prakash Honoured: India's badminton star Prakash Padukone is among the world famous sportsmen to be awarded the diploma of honour by the Selection Committee of the 1979 International Fair Play in Sports, according to an official announcement made at Paris on September 4.

The awards are for exceptionally sporting or courageous acts, or for exemplary sporting career.

Inter-Railway Championships: Syed Modi of North-Eastern Railway retained the men's title in the 28th Inter-Railway Badminton Championships at Agra on August 31. In the final, he defeated Anil Dey of South-Eastern Railway by 15-3, 15-1. The women's crown was claimed by Madhumita Goswami of South-Eastern Railway when she defeated Vandana Chiplunkar of Central Railway by 11-7, 11-5.

CRICKET

Centenary Test: The 100th anniversary of the first Test on English soil was celebrated at Lord's (London) with a centenary Test between England and Australia. The match, which concluded on September 2, failed to produce any result, rain having curtailed several hours of play.

SCORES:

Australia: 385 for five dec. (K.J. Hughes 117, G.M. Wood 112) and 189 for four dec. (K.J. Hughes 84).

England: 205 (G. Boycott 62; L. Pescoc, five for 59; D. Lillee, four for 43), and 244 for three (G. Boycott 128 not out).

Captains: Ian Botham (England), Greg Chappell (Australia).

It may be mentioned that the Centenary Test match between these two countries at Melbourne in 1977 had resulted in a win for Australia by 45 runs. By some odd chance of fate, the result was exactly the same as that of the first Test 100 years before.

English County Championship: Middlesex won the English County Cricket Championship for the ninth time when they defeated Glamorgan by 72 runs at Cardiff on September 2.

West Indies Win Rubber: The fifth and last Test match between West Indies and England ended in a draw at Lord's (London) on August 12. The visitors thus clinched the rubber by 1-0, the only victory scored by them in the first Test at Nottingham. The remaining four matches remained inconclusive, mostly due to curtailment of hours of play by rains.

SCORES:

England: 143 and 227 for six. **West Indies:** 245.

Captains: Viv Richards (West Indies, Clive Lloyd being on the injured list); Ian Botham (England).

HOCKEY

Junior Women's National Championship: Punjab reasserted their supremacy when they defeated hosts Kerala by four goals to nil in the final of the 17th Junior Women's National Hockey Championship at Trivandrum on August 21. Maharashtra got the third place with a facile 6-0 win over PEPSU.

This was Punjab's 11th win in the championship, including sharing of the title with Maharashtra last year. Kerala had claimed the title four times and Maharashtra had won this distinction twice.

Champions' Trophy: Pakistan will host the third P.I.A. Champions' Cup Hockey Tournament in January next, the Vice-President of the International Hockey Federation, Col. A.I.S. Dara, announced at Karachi on August 16. Besides Pakistan, the holders since the inception of the tournament in 1979, the other competing countries will be India, West Germany, Australia, Spain and Netherlands.

Players Honoured: Dung Dung, the sturdy full-back of the Indian hockey team which won the gold medal at the Moscow Olympics, was honoured during the Independence Day celebrations at Patna on August 15. Introducing the player to the vast gathering, the Chief Minister, Mr Jagannath Mishra, announced a cash award of Rs. 5,000 and a free house at Ranchi for Dung Dung on behalf of the State Government. Dung Dung belongs to the Bihar Regimental Centre and hails from Chhota Nagpur.

V. Bhaskaran, skipper of the victorious team, was promoted Grade I officer in the Personnel Department of the Southern Railway. The order of promotion, which came under the instructions of the Railway Minister, Mr Kamalapati Tripathi, was handed over to Bhaskaran at a special function at Madras on August 19.

POWERLIFTING

National Championships: Braj Bhushan Singh of P. & T. was adjudged the "Strongman of India, 1980" in the National Powerlifting Championships which concluded at Hyderabad on August 31.

Karnataka, with 75 points, retained the team title for the third time in a row. P. & T. (61) and Kerala (56) were placed second and third respectively.

SWIMMING

National Age Group Championships: Percis Madai., the wonder girl from Maharashtra, put up a stellar performance in the 7th National Age Group Aquatic Championships which concluded at Trivandrum on August 31. Participating in Group I for girls, she won eight events, setting new records in each, and was adjudged the best swimmer in this section. Wilson Cherian of Kerala was declared the best swimmer in Group I for boys.

Maharashtra ruled the pool with a medals tally of 36 gold, 33 silver and 21 bronze. Bengal (22-16-21) and Kerala (11-19-17) were placed second and third respectively.

The team championships were won by: Kerala (boys Groups I and II), Bengal (boys Group III), Maharashtra and Bengal (boys Group IV), Maharashtra (girls Groups I, II and III), Bengal (girls Group IV).

The water polo title was retained by Maharashtra who de-

feated National Swimming Association of Calcutta in a cliff hanger by seven goals to six.

TABLE TENNIS

Invitational Tournament: China won both the men's and women's team titles in the fourth Asian-African-Latin American Table Tennis Friendship Invitational Tournament at Tokyo on September 4. They defeated Japan 5-1 in the men's category and 3-0 in the women's section.

India bowed out of the men's team event losing 5-0 to North Korea in the quarter-finals. Hong Kong defeated India 3-0 in the quarter-finals of the women's section.

Chinese also took home three of the five titles at stake in the individual events. The remaining two were carried away by Japan.

TENNIS

U.S. Open Championships: Playing power tennis and making use of his "bomb-shell" service, John McEnroe defeated the five times Wimbledon champion, Bjorn Borg of Sweden, to claim the men's singles crown in the U.S. Open Tennis Championships which concluded at New York on September 7. The 21-year-old U.S. player won by 7-6, 6-1, 6-7, 5-7, 6-4 after a breathtaking four-hour and 10 minutes struggle.

Chris Evert Lloyd (USA) staged a remarkable come-back when she annexed the women's crown after defeating 18-year-old Hana Mandlikova (Czechoslovakia) in an emotion-charged final by 5-7, 6-1, 6-1. Lloyd had won the title from 1975 to 1978 but had lost in the final to Tracy Austin last year.

RESULTS:

Men's singles: John McEnroe (USA) beat Bjorn Borg (Sweden), 7-6, 6-1, 6-7, 5-7, 6-4.

Women's singles: Chris Evert Lloyd (USA) beat Hana

Mandlikova (Czechoslovakia), 5-7, 6-1, 6-1.

Men's doubles: Bob Lutz and Stan Smith (USA) beat Peter Flemming and John McEnroe (USA), 7-6, 3-6, 6-1, 3-6, 6-3.

Women's doubles: Billie Jean King (USA) and Martina Navratilova (U.S.-based Czech) beat Pam Shriver (USA) and Betty Stove (Netherlands), 7-6, 7-5.

A. T. P. Championships: Third-seeded Harold Solomon of the U.S.A. won the men's title in the \$ 200,000 Association of Tennis Professionals Championships at Mason (Ohio) on August 25. In the final, he defeated unseeded Francisco Gonzalez of Puerto Rico, 7-6, 6-3, and carried away a cheque for \$ 28,000. On his way to the final, Gonzalez had defeated top-seeded Jimmy Connors.

The doubles crown was claimed by Brian Teacher and Bruce Manson of the U.S.A. who defeated a strong combination of Wojtek Fibak (Poland) and Lendi (Czechoslovakia) by 6-7, 7-5, 7-5.

WRESTLING

Indian Grapplers' Success: India secured the third place in the World Mini Wrestling Championships which concluded at Stockholm on August 7. The top spot was claimed by the U.S.A. while Iraq finished runners-up. The Indians secured nine medals as follows:

Gold: Vinod Kumar (45 kg)—freestyle and Greco-Roman style, and Rajinder Singh (28 kg)—freestyle.

Silver: Rajinder Singh (28 kg)—Greco-Roman style, and Jai Kishan (57 kg)—freestyle.

Bronze: Jai Kishan (57 kg)—Greco-Roman style, Jatinder (30 kg)—freestyle, Dharam Pal (56 kg)—freestyle and Jai Singh (68 kg)—Greco-Roman style.

Current General Knowledge

Abbreviations
Awards
Books
Commissions
Persons
Places
Science
Space Research
U.N.O.
Miscellany

ABBREVIATIONS

CHOGRM: The Commonwealth Heads of Government Regional Meeting.

AWARDS

Nehru Literacy Award: Janardan Rai Nagar, founder Upkulpati of the Rajasthan Vidyapeeth at Udaipur, has been awarded the Nehru Literacy Award of the Indian Adult Education Association for his outstanding contribution to the promotion of adult education in the country.

Fourth World Film Festival, Montreal

"Grand Prize of the Americas": "Fontamara" by Italian director Carlo Lizzani and "the Stunt Man" by U.S. director Richard Rush were unanimously chosen to share the festival's "Grand Prize of the Americas". The winning films represent the extremes of contemporary cinema.

Best Actor Award: Robert Duvall, veteran U.S. actor won the Best Actor award for his role as a marine pilot and domineering father in "The Great Santini", a U.S. movie written and directed by Lewis John Carlino.

Best Actress Award: It went to Spanish child actress Ana Torrent for her memorable performance in El Nijo (meaning 'nest') as a diabolical young girl who leads a rich widower to ruin.

Commonwealth Film and Television Festival, Nicosia

The Indian entry "Elephant

God" won the bronze medal in the feature film category at the first-ever Commonwealth film and television festival which ended in Nicosia on August 30.

Another Indian entry "Rumtek" won a special award in the documentary section.

BOOKS

"Hero of Our Time": It is biography of Lord Mountbatten written by Richard Hough. The author has alleged that the negotiations on the transfer of power in India were markedly affected by Lady Edwina Mountbatten's close relationship with Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.

The book was timed to coincide with the first anniversary of Lord Mountbatten's assassination. Mountbatten, who was assassinated by Irish Republican Army guerillas a year ago, was the British Viceroys of India at the time of partition.

Mr Hough asserts in his 273-page book, priced at £ 8.50, that Edwina's affairs caused much misery in their marriage, which Lord Mountbatten is on record having said was one of the most wonderful things that happened to him.

The book has been hailed by British newspapers as a highly successful biography.

COMMISSIONS

Sikri Commission: It was a three-member commission headed by Mr Justice S.M. Sikri, former Chief Justice of India appointed by the Jammu and Kashmir Government to enquire

into imbalances if any between three regions of Jammu and Kashmir State and to make suitable recommendations to the Government to end all alleged regional imbalances within the three regions of the State in the wake of seven-month agitation launched by the people of Jammu region in 1978-79.

The Commission submitted its 271-page report to the Chief Minister, Sheikh Abdullah on August 25.

PERSONS

A mir Khusrau: Khawaja Amir Khusrau, whose 675th Urs (death anniversary) was "celebrated" recently in the Sufi tradition at Urs Mahal (his shrine) in Nizamuddin in New Delhi was a great Sufi poet-courtier. He was known as "Tooti-o-Hind" (literally "the Nightingale of India") because of his accomplishments in the fields of poetry, music and literature.

He wrote much of his poetry in Persian, Sanskrit and Khari Boli.

Chon Doo-hwan, Gen: a former army strongman, was formally installed as the fifth President of South Korea on Sept. 1. He has reaffirmed a previously announced Government plan to hold new elections by next June under a new Constitution to be put to national referendum.

Libba, Willard F.: who died recently at the age of 71, was a Nobel laureate, a chemist whose accomplishments helped man

explore the solar system and probe his distant past.

Prof Libba helped develop the atomic bomb during World War II and tried to harness its power with the "Atom For Peace" programme a decade later.

He won the 1960 Nobel Prize in chemistry for developing the radioactive carbon-dating methods, now considered indispensable by archaeologists. The procedure, which measures the relative abundance of two types of carbon, can determine the age of once-living things back to 50,000 years.

His work as a scientist included space exploration and lunar research.

Nagar, Janardan Rai: He is founder Upkulpati of the Rajasthan Vidyapeeth at Udaipur. He has been awarded the Nehru Literacy Award for this year for his outstanding contribution to the promotion of adult education in the country.

The Rajasthan Vidyapeeth which has a chain of institutions to promote formal and non-formal education in the State, was founded by Mr Nagar in 1937. He has been a pioneer in linking education with productive work.

Mr Nagar has written a number of books and stories for neoliterates. He is editor of "Janmangal" a weekly published by the Rajasthan Vidyapeeth since 1962.

Narayanan, K.R.: Vice-Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru University, who has been appointed as India's Ambassador to the U.S.A., is one of India's distinguished diplomats. He succeeds Mr N.A. Palkhivala, who had returned to New Delhi some time ago.

Mr Narayanan has been a career diplomat and had also served as Indian Ambassador to China before retiring from the Indian Foreign Service.

Zhao Ziyang: 61, who has been appointed as Prime Minister of China to succeed Mr Hua Guofeng, was a member of the Party Politburo and, last year, one of its Standing Committee men.

A native of Henan province, Mr Zhao joined the Communist Party in 1938. After many years as an administrator and First Secretary of the populous southern province of Guangdong, he moved to Mr Deng's native province Sichuan, the most densely populated province and one of the poorest. He listed it up with a bold programme which emphasized independence for enterprises and profit-sharing with workers.

PLACES

Cholistan: is the desert area not far off from the Rajasthan border, chosen by Pakistan as site for an underground nuclear explosion. Even tunnelling is said to be in progress for an underground blast. Pakistan probably wants to go for the big bang by the end of 1981.

Narmadanagar: near Broach in Gujarat State, is the place where the world's largest oil-based fertilizer plant is taking shape.

It is among the three giant fertilizer projects worth Rs. 1,270 crores and a capacity of 2,120,000 tonnes a year coming up in Gujarat which is a leading producer of phosphatic and nitrogenous fertilizers in the country with an annual output of 1,580,000 tonnes from its three plants.

SCIENCE

Taste detector: An instrument, which can register even the slightest deviation in a person's sense of taste, has been developed by students at the Riga Medical Institute (USSR). The instrument, known as *electro-gustometer*, can detect the

change by light touches by an electrode on different parts of the tongue. It can also help a lot in diagnosing certain diseases of the central and peripheral nervous system.

Making Human Minds Out of Computers: Computers are being taught to give expert medical advice, decide court cases and think the way people do, and some day may even surpass even the best human minds, according to scientists.

The newest computer programmes attempt to get computers to handle complex rather than just numbers, said Dr Edward Shortliffe, one of the 1,000 scientists attending the first national conference on artificial intelligence at Stanford University.

But Dr Shortliffe, a Stanford physician who is devising a programme to help doctors treat cancer said he doubted that these "expert" computer programmes would replace human experts any time soon. "Because when it comes to common sense, computers are really not very good", he said.

Projects discussed at the week-long conference included a programme to determine blame and damage awards if a manufacturer's product caused injury.

Another system from the University of Pittsburgh helps doctors diagnose diseases. It is scheduled for actual trials later this year.

SPACE RESEARCH

16th Jupiter moon found: Photos snapped by two Voyager spacecraft have led to the discovery of a 16th satellite orbiting the planet Jupiter, as reported by the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

It is the third new satellite located in pictures taken by the

Voyagers as they swept past the planet last year.

Voyager's Focus on Saturn: Voyager 1, the spaceship that unveiled the colourful mysteries of Jupiter last year, turned its cameras on yet another mysterious world—golden Saturn and its shimmering nest of rings.

Voyager 1, still 66 million miles from Saturn and racing along at 45,650 m.p.h. is to sail within 76,000 miles of the ringed planet on November 12.

Voyager is following a trail blazed by the smaller Pioneer 11 which collected an impressive pile of data when it visited Saturn last September. Voyager's much more sophisticated instruments are expected to far exceed results from Pioneer.

The trip promises dramatic close-up views of the churning gas clouds that form the planet's surface. Saturn, with 95 times the earth's mass is a gigantic ball of hydrogen and helium swirling about a dense rocky core.

Cosmonauts' sixth month in space: Leonid Popov and Valery Ryumin have begun the sixth month of work in the near-earth space.

During the long orbital flight they have accomplished a large amount of research, including observations and photography of the earth's surface, astrophysical observations experiments on space study of materials, and medico-biological research.

The cosmonauts made visual observations of and photographed the south western part of the Soviet Union's territory, did physical exercises and carried out a television reportage in September.

Meteor-2: is a weather (or meteoro logical) satellite of the earth launched by the Soviet Union recently.

Meteor-2 carries complex apparatus to obtain global

images of cloud-cover and the underlying surface in the visible and infra-red areas of the spectrum both in the memorising mode and in the direct transmission mode.

The satellite is also equipped with radiometry apparatus for continuous observations of penetrating radiation fluxes in the near-earth space.

The satellite's initial orbital period is 102·4 minutes with a maximum distance from the earth's surface—906 km.

U.N.O.

153rd U.N. Member: Zimbabwe (formerly Rhodesia) has been admitted as the 153rd member of the U.N.O.

Japan elected to Security Council: Japan has been elected unopposed for a two-year term in the Asian seat on the Security Council that Bangladesh will give up at the end of this year.

MISCELLANY

The poor in U.S.A.: Some 24·5 million Americans or 11·48 per cent of the total U.S. population live below the subsistence level, according to a report of the Census Office of the U.S. Administration.

Among the whites, the percentage living below the poverty line is 8·7. Among those of Latin American origin it is 21·6 and among Afro-Americans 30·6.

In New York, Chicago and Philadelphia, every fifth person is poor. Washington has the most glaring contradiction between the rich and the poor with 18 per cent of its population below the poverty line.

Maharashtra Still Most Industrialized State: Maharashtra maintains its position as the most industrialized State, having 15·4% of the total factories in the country, 17·5% in em-

ployment, 15·4% in fixed capital employed, 24% in output and 25% contribution to value added manufacture.

West Bengal is second in terms of employment (13·2%) and value added by manufacture (11·6%) but has a fourth position in output (10·5%) and sixth in fixed capital employed (7·2%) and number of factories located in the State (7%).

In terms of fixed capital employed Bihar and U.P. have second and third ranking respectively. Gujarat and Tamil Nadu occupy second and third positions in terms of output.

Danger of nuclear war to increase by 1984: The danger of a nuclear war anywhere in the world will increase from about 1 per cent to 5 per cent between now and 1984, according to the consensus view of a group of 32 experts.

The panel's view was that the risk would then continue to climb until it is 10 per cent in the 1990s. They said the 1970s passed with a one per cent chance of a nuclear war.

The experts from fields as varied as nuclear weapon, military science and international relations gave their assessment in a poll sponsored by "Next" magazine for an article appearing in its October issue.

Corrections

September 1980 issue

Page 132 against "Pahlavi, Reza Mohammed" line 3 : The year should be read as 1979 (and not 1977).

Page 133 under "Miscellany": The figure of unemployed should be read as : 14·843 m. (and not 14,843 m.).

Page 136 under 'Events' against July 29 -read 16 years instead of 10 years.

The mistakes are regretted. We are grateful to the readers who have pointed these out to us.

—Editor.

* New Foreign Policy (*Contd. from page 156*)

to better foreign relations and removal of misunderstandings with certain orthodox Muslim countries such as Saudi Arabia and Libya. Towards Arabs India has always professed friendship, and this country will continue in the Eighties to be critical of Israeli actions and generally support the Arabs.

India's stand on the Afghanistan issue, which was criticised earlier by the U.S.A., Pakistan

and China but is now being better understood, is based on three principles: no country should intervene in the internal affairs of another or send troops there; Afghanistan must be enabled to decide its own affairs and be non-aligned, and, third, Soviet troops should withdraw, which would be done if Pakistan stops training rebels and sending them across the border. This stand will continue.

World Economic Outlook (*Contd. from page 158*)

belongs to genetic industry, that is, it is not inexhaustible. It must, therefore, be conserved by judicious use so that its available stock lasts longer. The oil-exporting countries may, therefore, not only jack up the prices of their primary product but may also curtail production.

On the domestic front, increased emphasis have to be on maximization of production of commodities needed most by the poor and their equitable distribution. Deficit financing must be minimized and the investment pattern re-oriented to generate more employment opportunities.

To correct the imbalance in foreign trade, import substitution within the framework of self-reliance can go a long way to meet the situation. Steps to promote exports should also be intensified.

Conclusion: The overall picture of world economy is grim. A spell of stagnation is ahead for the poor nations. Unless the governments of the various countries rise above their parochial short-term interests, the third world has to face the worst. This is not to cry wolf but a writing on the wall which, if unheeded, may imperil our future.

Industrial Policy : A Critique (*Contd. from page 160*)

(iii) Enhanced investment:

As already pointed out, the enhancement in the investment limits of the tiny, small and ancillary industries will not curb, as is hoped, *benami* ownership. It may rather create *benami* units. The small units in the upper investment bracket may pre-empt the benefits given by the State.

(iv) What-and-for-whom-to-produce question: The real challenge before the country is "what to produce and for whom to produce". The industrial policy fails to answer this question. It does not enjoin any obligation on the captains of industry to channelize their investment and

achieve production targets in terms of social priorities. Nor does it encourage production of essential goods of mass consumption and discourage the production of inessential goods used by the upper income groups.

(v) Pro-capital intensive: The apprehension is that the new industrial policy will give a positive tilt to capital-intensive industries.

(vi) Excess capacity: The regularization of the illegally installed capacity is an indirect encouragement to the businessmen to defy the licensing regulations. The legitimization of the unlicensed capacity provides an opportunity to favour some

units to increase their market shares at the expense of other units. This may strengthen monopolistic tendencies or concentration of economic power to which the government is opposed in principle, at least. If it leads to unbalanced growth, it signals "the end of planning and the public sector as engines of growth".

(vii) Outdated prescriptions: According to a Marxian, the policy statement revives time-worn prescriptions, rejected in theory and practice.

Reform of India's Noisy Parliament (*Contd. from page 154*)

and sanction of any other type of Bills involving expenditure from the public revenues would continue to be handled by Parliament as a whole. Thus Parliament's sovereignty and overall powers of control and supervision over the Government's functioning would remain unaffected.

In any case, urgent steps need to be taken to save the precious time of Parliament. The vigilant section of the electorate and the principal political parties should not encourage M.P.s who are merely noise experts and trouble makers. Such people do not deserve to become M.P.s.

Objective-Type Tests—General Studies

(Contd. from page 186)

ANSWERS

1. (d)	2. (b)	3. (b)
4. (c)	5. (b)	6. (b)
7. (c)	8. (b)	9. (b)
10. (c)	11. (c)	12. (c)
13. (c)	14. (b)	15. (d)
16. (d)	17. (b)	18. (c)
19. (b)	20. (c)	21. (c)
22. (c)	23. (a)	24. (b)
25. (c)	26. (a)	27. (c)
28. (a)	29. (d)	30. (a)
31. (a)	32. (a)	33. (c)
34. (a)	35. (d)	

VOCABULARY

(Meaning of selected words used in this issue)

admonish: to warn; to reprove mildly.

aggrandisement: increase in power, rank, wealth of (person, State); exaggerate, embellish.

alacrity: briskness; cheerful readiness; promptitude.

bastion: a kind of tower at the angle of fortification; a defence.

blatant: flagrant; clamorous; egregiously vulgar.

callous: hardened; unfeeling.

chicanery: trickery or artifice esp. in legal proceedings; quibbling.

decorum: that which is in keeping, congruous; that which is becoming in outward appearance; propriety of conduct; decency.

détente: (Fr.) relaxation of strained relations.

devolution: a passing from one person to another; a handing over of powers.

disenchant: to disillusion.

dogmatism: dogmatic or positive assertion of opinion.

dubious: doubtful; undetermined; of uncertain event or issue.

credulity: disposition to believe or insufficient evidence.

dodo: a clumsy flightless bird, about the size of a turkey, extinct about the end of the 17th century.

enunciation: a distinct statement or declaration.

extraneous: external; foreign, not belonging to or depending on one thing; not essential.

fallacious: deceptive; misleading; not well-founded; causing disappointment; delusive.

fanaticism: wild and excessive religious or other enthusiasm.

flout: to jeer at; to mock; to treat with contempt.

frantic: mad; furious; wild.

furore: craze; wild enthusiasm; wild excitement.

furtive: stealthy; secret.

gimmick: secret device for performing a trick; a device to catch attention, peculiar to the person adopting it.

gloss: to comment or make explanatory remarks.

gull: a dupe; an easily duped person; a hoax. *adj.* gullibility.

hapless: unlucky; unhappy.

holocaust: a huge slaughter or destruction of life.

impasse: a deadlock; blind alley; position from which there is no escape.

impunity: freedom or safety from punishment or ill consequences.

insolent: overbearing; insulting; rude.

malaise: uneasiness; a feeling of discomfort or of sickness.

masochism: a sexual perversion with pleasure in being dominated or treated cruelly by the other sex; (loosely) morbid gratification in suffering pain, physical or mental.

nefarious: extremely wicked; villainous.

ostensible: that may be shown; outwardly showing or professed.

ostracized: to exclude from society.

parochialism: a system of local government which makes the parish the unit; provincialism, narrowness of view.

pandemonium: any very disorderly or noisy place or assembly; tumultuous uproar.

penchant: inclination; decided taste; bias.

persona non grata: undesirable people.

pester: to annoy persistently.

platitudine: an empty remark made as if it were important.

prerogative: a peculiar privilege shared by no other; a right arising out of one's rank, position, or nature.

rational: of the reason; agreeable to reason; intelligent; judicious.

regress: reversion; backward movement or extension; re-entry.

sanctimony: holiness; outward, affected or simulated holiness.

slur: an appension, stain, imputation of blame.

squib: a petty lampoon; a paltry fellow.

succinct: concise.

syndrome: concurrence esp. of symptoms; a characteristic pattern or group of symptoms.

synoptic: affording or taking a general view of the whole.

travesty: disguise; burlesque.

wallow: to fade away.

wily: tricky; deceitful.

Appointments Etc.

Appointed, Elected Etc.

Gen Chon Doo-hwan: Appointed President of South Korea.

Zhao Ziyang: Appointed Prime Minister of China. He succeeds Mr Hua Guofeng.

Turgut Ozal: Appointed Prime Minister of Turkey. He was Economic Adviser to the deposed Prime Minister, Mr Suleyman Demiral.

K.R. Narayanan: Appointed India's Ambassador to the U.S.A.

Vishnu K Ahuja: India's Ambassador to Japan, appointed India's Ambassador to the Soviet Union. He replaces Mr Inder Kumar Gujral.

Krishnan Srinivasan: Appointed India's High Commissioner to Nigeria.

C.V. Ranganathan: Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, appointed Indian envoy to Hong Kong, designated as 'Commissioner'.

S.K. Misra: Appointed Chairman of the India Tourism Development Corporation.

Prakash Tandon: He has been unanimously elected President of the National Council of Applied Economics and Research (N.C A.E.R.). He succeeds the former member and President of the Council, Mr Asoka Mehta, who has retired.

Stanislaw Kania: He has been chosen as party leader by the Central Committee of the Polish Communist Party, replacing Mr Edward Gierek who had been under fire for his handling of the recent labour strikes in Poland.

Distinguished Visitors

Masayoshi Ito: Foreign Minister of Japan.

Shaikh Jaber al-Ahmed al-Jaber al-Sabah: The Amir of Kuwait. He is the first Kuwaiti ruler to come to India.

Kenneth Kaunda: President of Zambia.

Resigned

Hua Guofeng: Prime Minister of China.

Edward Babiuch: Prime Minister of Poland.

Deposed

Suleyman Demirel: Prime Minister of Turkey; deposed in a bloodless military coup on September 12

EVENTS

AUGUST

- 26—Zimbabwe (formerly Rhodesia) admitted as 153rd member of the U.N.O.
- 27—Ethiopian army forces, backed by air strikes, invade north-western Somalia.

SEPTEMBER

- 2—President Hafez Assad agrees to merge Syria with Col Moammar Gaddafi's Libya to strengthen Arab defences against Israel.
- China to introduce income tax.

4—Regional Commonwealth meet opens. The heads of government of the countries of the Commonwealth in the Asian and Pacific region begin their five-day conference voicing varied perceptions on political questions and a common concern over global economic imbalances.

5—The Madhya Pradesh High Court sets aside the election of the Union Civil Supplies Minister, Mr Vidya Charan Shukla, to the Lok Sabha from the Mahasamund constituency in January on the ground that his candidacy was not valid at the time of filing his nomination papers because of his conviction in

the "Kissa Kurst Kart" case.

- 7—The Chinese Premier, Mr Hua Guofeng resigns Vice-Premier, Mr Zhao Ziyang appointed Prime Minister of China.
- Constitution of China to be revised.
- 10—Syria and Libya officially proclaim the creation of a "State grouping the two countries"; President Assad of Syria and Colonel Gaddafi of Libya agree to form a unified Government within a month.
- For the first time since partition Pakistan concedes and rejects "negative" reporting by its press of the recent communal disturbances in India.
- U.S. Panels vote to bar N-Fuel sale to India.

11—The Revolutionary Council which ruled Iran since the Shah was toppled last year, announces its dissolution following the appointment of a new Government.

- 12—India and Zambia agree to enlarge the gamut of the existing economic co-operation both at Government and private sector levels.
- Bloodless military coup in Turkey; Mr Suleyman Demiral's Government toppled.

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Think Awhile

Leisure

"The end of labour is to gain leisure", said Aristotle.

Employ your time well if you mean to gain leisure; and since you are not sure of a minute, do not throw away an hour.

Leisure is time for doing something useful, and this leisure the diligent man will obtain, but the lazy man never.

Editor

The Competition Master

126, Industrial Area,
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Repercussions of the War

WARS are horrible at all times and involve heavy, almost irreparable, losses of life and property. But the bitter Iraq-Iran conflict, in which the two neighbours seem determined to destroy each other, has certain peculiarities which threaten to affect a large section of the rest of the world. The two warring countries are among the major oil producers, and India gets about 11 million tonnes of oil from them every year out of the 16 million tonnes it imports. With both the rivals bombing each other's oil installations recklessly, a large section of the globe may find itself starved of petroleum products. As irony would have it, the worst-affected countries would be the Third World's non-oil-producing countries, such as India. The wheels of industry may come to a grinding halt, and agriculture will suffer severe setbacks.

Interestingly, the Big Powers have ample stocks of oil for about three months, by which time the war is expected to come to an end. But India and certain other countries, which had no idea that a major armed conflict was brewing (apparently at the prompting of the U.S.A. which has considerable influence over the aggressor, Iraq, which was formerly a Soviet ally but lately has switched over to the Americans), have very limited stocks. There has been frantic buying of oil in the world markets at high prices. In sum, the poorer nations are the hardest hit by the war, as they already were by the oil crisis.

This explains why the Big Powers, the USA, the Soviet Union and China, are not interested in bringing the hostilities to an end very soon. Let both the warring parties exhaust themselves; then they would depend for arms and weapons on the Big Powers. Thus the Big Powers' armaments industries would continue to get more orders. The trade in lethal weapons will continue. The weak nations pay for the war indirectly and the big fish benefit both directly and indirectly by letting the smaller fry fight it out. What can be a greater irony than this war by proxy?

The occasional attempts at mediation have failed so far; the conflict has escalated; worse, there has been a major split among the Arab nations, with Syria joining hands with the Soviet Union and Iraq breaking off with Syria and a couple of other Arab countries. Assault after assault is being mounted; destruction and havoc are writ large over the region, and the shock waves will travel far while the giants watch with tongue in cheek.

Jordan has openly supported Iraq and a combined offensive by the Arabs against Iran seems likely. Apart from the traditional Arab-Persian rivalry, which lies at the root of the conflict (the Arabs want to take revenge against Iran), there is also the Shia-Sunni conflict—an important factor in Arab-Iranian relations. The Arab States are ruled by Sunnis, though they have a sizable Shia population. Half of Iraq's population is Shia and they are stated to be loyal to Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini. The Iranian claim of supremacy over the Gulf region—the late Shah's fond dream—may soon come to an end.

But Iraq's plans have also gone awry; its hopes of vanquishing Iran within a few days are fading. Since the super powers have a vital stake, the possibility of these giants jumping in indirectly cannot be ruled out. So there may soon be a worldwide conflict, the repercussions of which may reach all corners of the globe. The USA has openly offered to supply arms to the Gulf countries; the Russians are more discreet and are acting on the sly. But they will not let Iran go under, just as the USA will not let Iraq be defeated.

In these circumstances, the urgency of effective mediation is apparent, but such is the world pattern that the war will come to an end not when Iraq and Iran want it but when the U.S.A. and Russia want it. Innocent people are thus suffering at the altar of big power interests. The U.N. is indeed in a pathetic state—helpless, voiceless, ineffective, forlorn and a silent spectator to the international tragedy that is being enacted right before its eyes.

Current National Affairs

No "Basic Structure" of Constitution

The Government under Mrs Indira Gandhi's leadership does not believe in the theory of the "basic structure" of the Constitution and does not accept the proposition that there are constraints on the constituent power of Parliament to amend the Constitution.

This was made clear on October 1 by Union Law Minister, Mr Shiv Shankar, at a meeting of the Consultative Committee of Parliament attached to his Ministry. The Minister rejected a suggestion by Janata member Babusaheb Parulekar that the Constitution should not be amended in such a manner as to effect the "basic structure", which included supremacy of the Constitution, the republican form of Government, separation of powers between the executive and the judiciary, its federal character and the dignity and freedom of the individual.

The Law Minister explained that while it is certainly not the intention of the Government to effect changes like those which would do away with the secular and democratic character of the Constitution, it does not accept the proposition that there are restraints on the constituent power to amend the Constitution. The suggestion that the power to amend the Constitution should expressly be curtailed by an amendment is not acceptable to the Government. This is apart from the question whether any such amendment would, in fact, bind future Governments.

A note circulated to M.P.s traced the entire controversy about the basic features, beginning from the Supreme Court's judgement in the Kesavananda Bharati case in 1974. It says that six out of seven Judges felt that there were inherent and implied limitations on the amending power. Mr Justice H.R. Khanna, while not accepting this theory, nevertheless ruled that the expression "amendment" could not mean alteration of the basic structure or framework of the Constitution. All the seven Judges gave illustrations of what they considered to be the basic structure. The precise scope of the limitation on the amending power of Parliament was left undecided. The Union of India then took steps to secure a reconsideration of this case by the Supreme Court and a 13-member bench was constituted for the purpose. But it was dissolved without going into the matter.

In a subsequent decision of the Supreme Court (in the Mrs Gandhi *versus* Raj Narain case) a five-member bench accepted the verdict in the Kesavananda Bharati case but once again failed to give an exact definition of the "basic structure and framework."

To get over the difficulties Article 368 was amended through the 42nd Amendment Act in 1976.

The Government's note pointed out how on May 9, 1980, the Supreme Court in the Minerva Mills case struck down Section 55 thereof, on the ground that it was beyond the amending

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power of Parliament and was void, since it removed all limitations on the power of Parliament to amend the Constitution and conferred power upon it to amend the Constitution so as to damage or destroy its basic or essential features or its basic structure. The court gave the fuller reasons for its judgement on July 31, 1980.

But in the present Government's view "the basic feature is an extraneous consideration that has been brought into the judgement and the Government did not believe in the theory of basic structure". It was in pursuance of this stand that the petition had been filed on September 5 for a reconsideration of the judgement.

Tax Laws to be Simplified

Every few years the Central Government appoints a committee to simplify tax laws. In fact every Finance Minister starts his term with announcements of his intention to "rationalise" the tax structure. But, apart from appointing committees, no concrete measures are taken in this field. The Union Government now intends to appoint yet another committee for suggesting ways to simplify direct tax laws, according to a report early in October.

This would be in addition to action that has been initiated to process the recommendations of the Choksi Committee (Direct Tax Laws Committee) which submitted its final report in September, 1978.

An implementation cell was set up under the supervision of the Member (Legislation), Central Board of Direct Taxes, to process the Choksi Committee's 718 recommendations made in its interim and final reports. Of these, 12 recommendations were implemented through the Finance Acts of 1978-79; six others are being given effect

through the Finance (No. Bill, 1980.

The Choksi Committee recommendations relate to substantive provisions of the Income Tax Act, Companies (Profits) Surtax Act, the Wealth Tax Act, the Gift Tax and the Estate Duty Act.

The Government also proposes to introduce comprehensive Central excise legislation to consolidate and amend, *inter alia*, the idea of simplifying the existing law. The proposed legislation will do away with the provisions relating to salt since no excise duty is being collected on this commodity.

Simplification has also been assured in respect of the Customs Taxation laws and the adoption of a single device. The Customs Tariff Act was brought into force in 1976, based on the well-established nomenclature known as CCCN (Customs Co-operation Council Nomenclature).

P.M. Condemns Sons-of-Soil Theory

Mrs Indira Gandhi on October 1 condemned as "poison" the sons-of-the-soil theory being spread by certain elements "as though people born in another part of the Indian soil are not equal sons and daughters of Mother India".

In a speech in Delhi on the occasion of the co-operative movement jubilee Mrs Gandhi also condemned the inter-group tensions such as the communal riots in recent weeks which she felt was the handiwork of well-organised fanatical groups, and not mass frenzy as such.

Basically the sons-of-the-soil theory was economic and designed to ensure more job opportunities for local people.

Mrs Gandhi underscored the importance of the co-operative spirit in both national and

international life and pointed out that the entire political edifice of Tanzania was sought to be built on the basis of the co-operative philosophy. In India the political parties were free to propound alternative theories and the people free to choose any theory among them. But there should be some agreement among them to work the system. "Without this basic willingness to co-operate", she warned, "parliamentary democracy would become unworkable".

In the Prime Minister's view the co-operatives should be run on modern commercial lines but at the same time they should benefit the masses for which the movement was launched by Jawaharlal Nehru and others. There must be a conscious effort to involve the weaker sections. Like dispersal of technology and organisational skill, continuous transfer of power should be the aim of the co-operative movement.

More Top Posts in Defence Services

In a major and long overdue overhaul of the top rank structure in the armed forces announced on October 7, the Government of India has created a number of new positions of Lieutenant-Generals, Air Marshals, Vice-Admirals and other senior ranks.

The step has been taken to avoid stagnation and open up avenues of promotions in the top echelons of the Army, Navy and the Air Force. With this restructuring, the cadre review, as recommended by the three Service Chiefs at various levels in the armed forces, has been completed.

The Army will have 11 more Lieut-Generals, 46 additional Major-Generals and about 100 more Brigadiers.

The Air Force will have four new Air Marshals, 16 additional Air Vice-Marshals, while the Navy will have three Additional Vice-Admirals and seven more Rear-Admirals.

With this the Army will have a total of 37 Lieutenant-Generals, and about 150 Major-Generals, while the number of Brigadiers would be almost doubled. The number of Air Marshals in the Air Force will rise from the present 10 to 14 and of Naval Vice-Admirals will rise from six to nine.

The new promotions will take effect in the next three years in a phased manner.

The Government has, however, not accepted the recommendations of the Service Chiefs for the creation of six more full Generals, three more Admirals and three more Air Chief Marshals. The Government is of the view that in the interest of better co-ordination and command purposes, it was desirable to have only one person at the head of each of the three services.

The three Chiefs, in a joint paper presented to the Government, had argued that the strength of the Indian forces had increased manifold since Independence and it is time that each Command is placed under a full four-star General in the Army, or equivalent rank in the Air force and the Navy. At present there are only three four-star officers, each of them being the Chief of Staff of his respective wing.

Although the rank restructure has been carried out now, some time has been lost and, as a result, some top officers in the three services have been superseded and some of them have taken retirement. Three Commanders in the Navy have resigned in the past few weeks.

The paper, signed by Air Chief Marshal I.H. Latif, General O.P. Malhotra, and Admiral

R.L. Pereira, had been prepared several months ago and was submitted during the Janata regime.

New Weapons for India

India already has several ordnance and small arms factories. The country is on the threshold of developing its own sophisticated weaponry system for increasing the defence and strike capabilities of its defence forces.

The weapons systems are based on the research work carried out during the last few years in the laboratories of the defence research and development organisation of the Ministry of Defence. The systems being developed would be able to meet the requirements of the Army, Navy and the Air Force for the next 10 to 20 years. The Ministry is working on an Indian-designed aircraft around an engine developed in the country itself. The aircraft is expected to meet the I.A.F. requirements for combat activities.

The prototype of a new tank developed by the defence research and development wing, keeping in view the requirements of the 1990s, incorporating the latest technology, is expected to be ready towards the end of 1981.

In the field of missile technology, Indian scientists are working on the development of the third generation missile which would reduce the radar detection to the minimum and would be of multi-purpose usage. Defence sources said that India had made creditable progress in converting a helicopter into "flying tank".

In the field of torpedo systems, Indian scientists have made further improvements in the installation of bombing devices. Very useful work has also been done in checking the corrosion and fouling of sea-going vessels.

In the field of research relating to radars, detection of underwater noise, sonar scanners, electronic warfare and missile systems, significant successes have been achieved by the research and development wing of the Defence Ministry.

The research work has also resulted in further advancement in the field of night vision devices, thus enhancing the capability of defence equipment. Defence establishments would soon be in a position to meet its requirements in this area.

Mult i-Role War-Planes : Technical knowhow for manufacturing multi-role warplane has been offered by a number of developed nations of Europe. Besides the technology, deep penetration strike aircraft-cum-interceptors like Viggen, Mirage-2000 and Mirage-4000, Tornado and advanced version of MIG-23, have also been offered for the Indian Air Force and their subsequent production in the country.

These offers are understood to have been indicated at various official and political levels after it appeared that India was having second thoughts on the question of production of Jaguar International at the Hindustan Aeronautics.

Defence experts, however, agree that it was essential to have advanced technology for the manufacture of a multi-role aircraft to meet the requirements of the Indian Air Force in 1990 and the year 2000.

The possibilities of U.S. offering its advance war-plane technology to India are also not ruled out. The countries, which have so far offered their future generation aircraft technologies for the production of supersonic fighter-interceptor and deep penetration strike aircraft which could be equipped with missiles, and other sophisticated weaponry systems, are reported to be the United King-

dom, France, Sweden, West Germany, U.S.S.R., and possibly the United States.

New Missiles: The country's defence research projects are to be reorganised in favour of larger projects. The stress is to be on fairly advanced missiles, the main battle tank and a light combat aircraft. The aim is to develop major defence items that could be of use in late 1980s and in the 1990s.

The development of missiles is, apparently, getting the pride of place in the defence research plans. Work is reportedly going on to develop third-generation missiles. These laser-based missiles will have considerable advantage over the missiles now being used in India. Also, these cannot be deflected from their guided course by the rays of the sun or the infra-red rays gathered in broken cloud formations. The missiles, when ready, would be used for air-to-air, air-to-surface and surface-to-air operations.

At present, India depends mostly on missiles supplied by the Soviet Union and some are made in the country. These will have limited utility after some years and, as such, will need replacement by advanced missiles.

The prototype of the main battle tanks will be ready by 1983 and it should be operational in a couple of years after that. The main tank will have a 1,500 horse-power engine, as against 700 horse power-engine of the Vijayanta tank now in use in the armoured divisions.

The battle tank will supplement Vijayanta which is being modified to improve its mobility, fire-power and first-round-kill probability. Vijayanta, apparently, is not being phased out soon. The main battle tank will be operational for at least 20 years.

In the field of aeronautics, the development of the light

combat aircraft is being given the highest importance.

Massive Increase in Government Expenditure

Like the Janata-Lok Dal Governments, Mrs Gandhi's Cabinet has also planned a careful review of the soaring Government expenditure developmental and non-developmental. The expenditure has gone up from Rs. 520 crores in 1950-51 to Rs. 1780 crores in 1979-80.

The National Institute, which has been entrusted with the job, will give its assessment to the Government by the year-end, in time for finalising the Sixth Plan programmes and also framing the Budget for 1981-82.

This is the first time that an attempt at an in-depth assessment of Government expenditure, which has been galloping year after year, has been undertaken. Such an assessment by an independent body would help the Government apply economic principles and yardsticks in its spending, especially when an ambitious Sixth Plan of the size of Rs. 90,000 crores is on the anvil.

The developmental expenditure has gone up from Rs. 155 crores to Rs. 10,475 crores, while the administrative expenditure has risen from Rs. 34 crores to Rs. 771 crores during the same period.

Finance Ministry sources maintain that as a result of different measures initiated by it, the administrative expenditure as well as tax collection charges have been declining every year, while the developmental expenditure has been showing a constant increase.

While the developmental expenditure as a percentage of total Central Government expenditure has risen from 29.80 per cent in 1950-51 to 58.82 per cent in 1979-80, the adminis-

trative expenditure has actually come down to 4.32 per cent last year from 6.53 per cent in 1950-51. The tax collection charges also declined to 1.31 per cent last year from 2.64 per cent in 1950-51.

An analysis of the Central Government expenditure for the past five years should indicate that the developmental expenditure has shot up from Rs. 6,473 crores in 1975-76 to Rs. 10,475 crores in 1979-80 and non-developmental expenditure from Rs. 5,564 crores to Rs. 7,333 crores over the same period.

A large part of the non-developmental expenditure is accounted for by Defence services, followed by interest payments, statutory and other grants to the States and Union Territories, consumer subsidies and pension and other retirement benefits to Government servants. This was an area where a balance had to be struck between economy and the needs of development, security, public order, external relations and contractual obligations.

Big Increase in Bank Profits

Despite the restrictions on their incomes and certain statutory obligations, the commercial banks in the country increased their profits by 100 per cent—from Rs. 4 crores to Rs. 8 crores in 1979. The profits of 14 nationalised banks went up by 20.1 per cent. The State Bank of India group recorded a rise of 15.2 per cent; the other scheduled commercial banks' profits shot up by 63.9 per cent and of foreign banks by 35.3 per cent.

All this when the "resources position of the banking system was tight"; there was a sharp decline in the rate of growth of deposits of scheduled commercial banks and there was significantly lower expansion of total bank credit.

The Reserve Bank report on "Trends and progress of banking in India 1979-80 (July-June)", which lists these figures, is a brutal self-indictment by the Reserve Bank which regulates the monetary trends. There were frequent adjustments in credit policy and instruments used to bring about the desired deceleration in credit. This amounts to the admission that it was a "trial and error approach" rather than a well-planned and sure-footed action.

The RBI had laid the blame on the "overhang of primary money following the monetary expansion that had taken place in the previous three successive years". During these three years, average annual money expansion was 18.4 per cent, while average annual rise in real national income was only 4.5 per cent. The report, however, does not say what the RBI was doing during these "previous three successive years" when a dangerous situation was building up.

Bank deposits rose by Rs. 4,612 crores during the year June 29, 1979, to June 27, 1980. The figure for the previous year was Rs. 5,359 crores. Thus the rate of deposit growth declined from 23 per cent to 16.1 per cent. Expansion of bank credit was Rs. 2,366 crores, against Rs. 3,621 crores in the previous year. One of the reasons for this decline in credit figures was the steep fall in food credit.

The RBI had followed a policy of dear and scarce money to fight inflationary prospects, and also the prospects of a decline in national income. It impressed on banks that their non-food credit expansion should be significantly lower. Considerable improvement was made in the matter of rural lending. The credit-deposit ratio for rural and semi-urban branches was 54.4 per cent and 47.2 per cent respectively. The minimum target

is 60 per cent.

New Policy for Banks: Increased lending for the priority sectors and active bank support for implementing the Government of India's 20-point programme are to govern the commercial banks' policy during the period 1980-85. According to the first decision, public sector banks (which today account for about 95 per cent of India's commercial banking) should strive to raise the proportion of their advances to the priority sectors from the present 33-1/3 per cent to 40 per cent of the total by 1985. The report notes that the present share of the priority sectors is only 31.2 per cent.

The second decision envisages that the banks should actively provide financial support for the implementation of the 20-point programme which aims at improving the lot of the weaker section of the population.

Stressing the leeway that banks have to make up in the field of priority sector lending, the R.B.I. observes that banks will have to work out the incremental advances to priority sectors every year, in the light of the projected increase in total credit so as to progressively reach the stipulated target by 1985. Moreover, qualitatively, the banks will have to adapt their lending attitudes, procedures and techniques with a view to enlarging assistance to the relatively weaker sections.

Deceleration in credit occurred despite the need for supporting larger inventories with some public sector trading corporations and for providing larger credit to petroleum companies to meet the higher cost of crude oil imports.

The Reserve Bank of India has admitted that frequent changes made by it in credit policies and procedures could not produce the desired results

because the banks could not respond to sudden changes like a robot.

RBI made frequent adjustments in credit policy last year and has drawn the "lesson" that it is much more difficult to slow down credit expansion in the very short run (three to six months) than the medium-term (a year to 15 months).

The increase in the profits of banks is significant in the context of their opening more branches in the unbanked backward areas. Of the 654 centres identified as unbanked community development block headquarters, 39 have not found favour with the banks, mainly because of the lack of infrastructural facilities there. In another 131 blocks, branches have yet to be opened.

Changes in Company Law

The important changes in the country's economy and in the international sphere in recent years have made vital modifications in the company law and in the recommendations of the Sachar Committee which studied the subject. The proposals for amendment of the Companies Act and the MRTP Act will be incorporated into one amending bill to be prepared for Parliament.

The Sachar Committee was appointed by the Janata Government in 1977 to make a comprehensive review of the provisions of the two Acts keeping in view the need to promote the growth of the corporate sector as an important instrument for capital formation, and to project the interests of shareholders to enable the corporate sector to play its due role in the national economy.

The Committee's report contains 600 recommendations of which 460 pertain to the Companies Act and the remaining 140 to the MRTP Act. The Janata Government considered it advisable to proceed with the

amendment of the Companies Act in two stages. The first amending bill was to be limited to the more urgent and important recommendations pertaining to the Companies Act and all the recommendations to the MRTP Act.

After the new Government took over, it was decided that (a) in view of the rapid changes in the economic situation a fresh look is required at some of the recommendations of the Sachar Committee, and (b) an attempt should be made to introduce simplifications of the law.

The Companies Act, 1956, was enacted to create conditions necessary for the healthy growth of enterprises, both in the public and private sectors and for providing safeguards to protect the interests of the investor and the public. The MRTP Act, 1969, was brought into force with effect from June 1, 1970. The Act was intended to see that the operation of the economic system does not result in the concentration of economic power to the common detriment. It was also intended for the control of the monopolies and for the prohibition of monopolistic and restrictive trade practices.

Rural Development Plan

Despite the plethora of plans for rural uplift the net benefit has been very little. Another ambitious plan for integrated rural development for a five-year period, 1980-85, has been drawn up by the Central Government. The existing plan is to be extended to cover 15 million families of small and marginal farmers, agricultural labourers, rural artisans and other weaker sections of the country's population. The Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) has been extended to all the 5,004 development blocks in the country from October 2.

The Centrally-sponsored programme designed to benefit

the poorest among the poor in rural India aims at assisting at least 3,000 families on an average in each development block during the Sixth Plan period (1980-85). At least 20 per cent of the families to be covered under the programme will belong to the Scheduled Castes and Tribes.

Under the programme, the poorest families in the rural areas will first be identified on the basis of their income after household surveys with which the panchayats and local bodies will be associated. After the selection, assistance will be provided for a comprehensive family plan aimed at generating substantial additional income for the family concerned. The assisted family is expected to go above the poverty line once and for all.

The selected families under this scheme will receive finances through a combination of subsidies provided by the Government and loans advanced by the banking institutions for the Plans. They will be entitled to subsidy ranging between one-fourth and one-third of the cost of the schemes, while the remaining investment will come from loans advanced by co-operative and commercial institutions.

A total of Rs. 4,000 crores, it is estimated, will be invested in providing assistance to the 15 million selected families during the Sixth Plan period. Of this, Rs. 1,750 crores will be in the form of subsidies and the remaining as loans from banking institutions. The subsidies will be shared equally by the Centre and the States, and each block will be provided with Rs. 5 lakh a year by way of government funds for this programme.

The IRDP will combine in it the earlier programmes such as the Small Farmers Development Agency (SFDA), the Drought-Prone Area Programme (DPAP), and the Desert

Development Programme (DDP).

The IRDP was launched in 1978 and was super-imposed by SFDA, DPAP, DDP etc. Since then, more than 10·3 million families have been assisted under these programmes, seven million having received assistance for agriculture and one million for taking up minor irrigation programmes. Under the new programmes, the objective would be to cater to all essential needs of the Indian villager and a "household approach" would be followed. Apart from the elimination of poverty through economic assistance to the family by providing opportunities of gainful employment, social needs of the families would also be attended to.

Judicial Reforms Plan

A three-member judicial reforms committee is to be set up by the Government of India to recommend measures to reduce the present heavy accumulation of arrears in the Supreme Court and the various High Courts.

Meanwhile, the recommendations of the Law Commission, in its 79th report, and those made by the Supreme Court Judges and the Chief Justices' Conference of last year are being examined by an inter-departmental committee which is being serviced by the Department of Legal Affairs. The report of this inter-departmental committee is expected soon.

The Centre has initiated action to increase the strength of Judges in the High Courts where a large number of cases are pending for over two years and for the appointment of *ad hoc* Judges exclusively for clearing cases pending for more than five years.

Delay by the Chief Justices of the High Courts in sending recommendations is the main

reason for not filling vacancies in various High Courts. To obviate such delays, the Centre will ask the State Governments and Chief Justices "to adhere to a specified time-schedule" envisaging the initiation of a proposal by the Chief Justice six months in advance of the occurrence of a vacancy. This will facilitate filling of vacancies in time.

According to details given by the Law Minister, Mr Shiv Shanker, at a recent meeting of the Consultative Committee of Parliament for his Ministry, 68 posts of Judges are vacant in various High Courts. This includes 22 newly-created posts. In most cases, recommendations are awaited from the States.

In case of recommendations received from nine States prior to the elections held in May last, views of the present Chief Ministers have been sought.

A recent review has indicated the need to increase the number of Judges in seven High Courts on the basis of the number of cases pending for more than two years. These were: Allahabad, Andhra Pradesh, Bombay, Calcutta, Karnataka, Patna and Rajasthan.

Pending cases in the Supreme Court have shot up nearly 12 times, from 2,319 in 1960 to 26,881 at the end of 1979. At the beginning of this year, of the 16,077 pending cases 4,675 had been pending for five years or more.

The total pendency in High Courts was 617,799 at the end of 1977. The disposal of cases in the Supreme Court was 7,734 in 1976, 10,395 in 1977, 17,095 in 1978, and 15,833 in 1979.

The institution of cases was 8,254 in 1976, 14,501 in 1977, 20,840 in 1978 and 20,754 in 1979. The pendency thus rose from 14,109 cases in 1976 to 18,215 in 1977, 21,960 in 1978 and 26,881 in 1979.

The disposal of cases, which increased from 1,681 in 1977 to 6,471 in 1978, declined to 3,845 in 1979. The total disposal of cases in the country as a whole in 1979 was 527,174 against 479,523 in 1978 and 400,704 in 1977. Institution during 1979 was 530,614 against 485,880 in 1978 and 454,733 in 1977. The overall rate of increase in pendency in the High Courts declined from 7·8 per cent during 1977 to one per cent in 1978 and 0·6 per cent in 1979.

The number of civil cases pending for over one year, which went up slightly from 345,480 at the end of 1977 to 364,164 at the end of 1978, came down to 344,618 on December 31, 1979. The number of criminal cases pending for more than a year has gone down continuously from 45,359 on December 31, 1977, to 43,643 at the end of 1978 to 37,819 at the end of 1979.

National Security Ordinance, 1980

On September 22, the President of India promulgated the National Security Ordinance which came into force on September 23 to enable the Government to detain any person to prevent him from acting against the defence or security of the country.

The Ordinance also enables the Centre or the State Government to detain a person to prevent him from acting in any manner prejudicial to the security of the State or the maintenance of public order or supplies and essential services.

Under the Ordinance, the maximum period of detention would be 12 months, but the Government could revoke or modify the detention order at any time.

The Ordinance, according to the official release, contains sufficient safeguards against misuse and ensures justice and fair-

play to the person proposed to be detained. "The authority ordering the detention shall communicate to the person detained ordinarily not later than five days and in exceptional circumstances and for reasons to be recorded in writing, not later than 10 days from the date of detention, the grounds on which the order has been made and shall afford him the opportunity of making a representation against the order."

The need for the ordinance, according to official release had arisen in view of communal disharmony, caste conflicts, social tension, extremist activities, atrocities on the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes, minorities and other weaker sections of society and increasing tendency on the part of various interested parties to engineer agitation on different issues.

The Constitution provides for preventive detention under Article 22. A Central Preventive Detention Act was in force from February, 1950, to August, 1978, with a short gap from January, 1970, to May, 1971.

Even when the Janata Party was in power at the Centre from March, 1977, to July, 1979, it advocated action for preventive detention and introduced a bill containing such provisions in the form of "The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 1977." However, this was withdrawn subsequently.

Later, when the Government under Mr Charan Singh assumed office, the Prevention of Black-marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Ordinance, 1979, was promulgated. This provided for preventive detention under certain circumstances. It was ratified by Parliament into an act later on.

Bail Provisions made difficult: Another Ordinance
(Contd. on page 216)

Current International Affairs

Iraq-Iran Conflict

Iraq suddenly invaded Iran on September 22, gained some initial advantages but lost them later, with Iran mobilising its forces, utilising all its reserves and displaying its staying power. Iran rejected all peace overtures and seemed determined to continue the war. The worst aspect of the war is the permanent damage to rich oil sources. Iraq's invasion of Iran appears to have come to a dead stop along most sectors of the front, according to reports reaching Western analysts. Tanks and artillery remain in positions occupied initially, and the only fighting, on a relatively small scale after two weeks of the war, was in the burning cities of Khorramshahr, Abadan and Ahwaz.

U.S. and other NATO analysts conclude that the Iraqis having inflicted serious but not crippling losses on the Iranian Army are content to sit tight and repel any counter offensive.

Air Force officers in Washington and other NATO capitals are puzzled by some aspects of the fighting. For example, the Iraqi Air Force has virtually vanished from the air above the battlefield. Although outnumbered at the start of the war, Iraq's Air Force was believed to be better prepared than Iran's: its MIG-80s, 115 MIG-21s and 100 Sukhoi fighter-bombers, all Soviet-made, were reported in a high state of mechanical readiness.

Since no serious shortage of spare parts (which only the Rus-

sians can alleviate) has been reported, the analysts conclude that the Air Force, like the Army has suspended offensive operations.

In addition, the Iranian tendency to employ aircraft principally for raids on Baghdad and other "political" targets seems to be a misuse of air power.

The lull in the fighting found the Iraqi forces in favourable positions almost everywhere. Possibly, their most important advance has been on Dezful.

On the diplomatic front, Iran's Foreign Office summoned the ambassadors of Arab countries to ask them to clarify their position in relation to the war. This came in the wake of published reports that certain Arab countries have offered to Iraq anchorage, fuel and other facilities, as also military and civil assistance.

The Iranian Prime Minister, Mr Mohammad Ali Rajai, warned Abu Dhabi, Kuwait and Jordan that Iran would count them as "participants" in the war if they helped Iraq.

Meanwhile, Ayatollah Khomeini rallied his nation and rejected yet again any accommodation with Iraq in a speech aimed at boosting the country's morale. The Ayatollah said: "We cannot compromise with corrupt elements, we will fight them to the end", adding "Fighting makes you forget your tiredness and makes you active."

Biggest Gulf Blow-up: West Asia has seen many wars over boundaries and ideologies in the

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20th century, but the conflict between Iran and Iraq is the biggest blow-up between two Gulf nations.

The four Arab-Israeli wars triggered the heaviest fighting among the most clearly defined foes, but the Arabs have also warred among themselves between, and even during, their common offensives against Israel.

Sometimes the inter-Arab fighting grew out of personal and political animosities between leaders, such as the four-day border skirmish in July, 1977, between Col Moammar Gaddafi's Libyan troops and the forces of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat. In other cases, civil wars such as the 1960 conflict in Yemen and the 1975-76 war in Lebanon became proxy battle-gounds for other West Asian nations.

But never in this country has there been such full-scale warfare between two Gulf nations as the war now being waged by the Iranian and Iraqi oil giants. Nor has the western world's access to critical Arab Gulf oil been so directly threatened.

During the 1973 Arab-Israeli war, the Arab oil producers temporarily cut supplies to the United States and other nations seen as Israel's allies, but the oil-fields themselves were not part of the battlefield.

The Iranian-Iraqi frontier has been a trouble-spot for decades, with periodic skirmishes erupting over Iraqi efforts to control the Shatt-al-Arab waterway at the head of the Gulf, the key oil gateway to both nations.

In addition, both Iran and Iraq have frequently sent troops against their Kurdish minorities who have waged almost continual battles for autonomy or independence.

Iraq has also had border disputes with its southern neighbour, Kuwait, primarily over oil

exploration rights in the northern tip of the Gulf.

U.S. to Supply Arms to Gulf

The United States is far from neutral in the Iraq-Iran war. It is suspected of having prompted Iraq to teach Iran "a lesson". It will supply military hardware to neutral Gulf nations that feel threatened by the war, according to a decision taken by the Carter Administration and disclosed on October 8.

The U.S. Deputy Secretary of State, Mr Warren Christopher, said in a major policy speech that the U.S. would honour "requests for assistance from non-belligerent friends in the area who feel threatened by the conflicts." The objective was to "prevent the conflict from expanding in ways that threaten the security of the region."

The Carter administration took a first step in supplying Saudi Arabia with early warning defensive aircraft. The U.S. was prepared to act to assure that the war does not disrupt oil shipments. However the U.S. claimed it had no intention of siding with either nation in their border war.

America, Mr Christopher said, will work with international organisations such as the United Nations to restore peace in the region. "We have vital interests at stake in the Gulf region, and as President Carter has made it clear, we will defend them."

"With other concerned nations, we have substantial military strength in the area. Our purpose is to defend our vital interests if they are assaulted. It is not to dominate the affairs of any nation in the region, but to help buttress their independence." There must be no interference with free transit of oil in the Strait of Hormuz and the Gulf, he said.

But neutrality should not be interpreted by other nations as indifference. He also urged the Soviet Union to stay out of the conflict and to stop what he termed fabrications that the U.S. was involved. There were no negotiations with Iran about the hostages and no immediate prospects for their release.

Russia-Syria Treaty

On October 9 there was a dramatic development in the international sphere when the Soviet Union and Syria signed a twenty-year friendship treaty that calls for stronger and lasting military co-operation, besides immediate contact when either party is threatened and regular consultations become necessary, especially on the problems of West Asia. This is interpreted as a counter-move to the increasing U.S. influence in the Middle East.

The Soviet President, Mr Leonid Brezhnev, and his Syrian counterpart, Mr Hafez Assad, signed the pact in the Kremlin shortly after the Arab leader arrived in Moscow on a three-day official visit.

Tass gave no details about the agreement, but Syrian sources in Damascus had reported before Mr Assad's departure that the impending treaty would include military provisions.

The Syrian sources described the document as one of "exceptional importance" and different from Soviet friendship pacts with other Third World nations. Diplomatic sources said the Soviet Union had been seeking a bilateral pact with Syria since the early seventies.

The Soviets had been largely excluded from a major role in West Asia since Egypt's expulsion of Soviet advisers in 1972.

Mr Brezhnev greeted the Syrian leader with military honours at Moscow's Sheremetev airport.

The Deputy Premier, Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, the Foreign Minister, Mr Andrei Gromyko, and other senior Kremlin officials were also present at the airport.

Syrian sources in Damascus described Mr Assad's trip as one of "exceptional importance" and said he and Mr Brezhnev would sign a number of agreements, including military ones, which would add up to a treaty of friendship and co-operation.

The reports that Mr Assad would sign a bilateral pact with the Soviet Union were seen by diplomats in Moscow as the culmination of a long drive by the Kremlin to regain a firm foothold in West Asia. Mr Assad, in turn, could expect to gain stronger Soviet backing in his troubled internal and external policies, including the conflict with Israel.

In his remarks carried by Soviet television, Mr Assad described the Soviet Union as a "loyal friend". Underlining Mr Assad's role in concluding the treaty, Mr Brezhnev said the Soviets highly value the initiative displayed in this respect by the Syrian side for expanding Soviet-Syrian ties.

U.S.-Soviet Relations Critical

The Russians are gradually consolidating their position in Afghanistan, despite the occasional hostile activity of the rebels and the firing incidents. But they asserted again on October 5 that they were firmly committed to the consolidation of detente. Little improvement is foreseen in the embittered relations between the two super-powers over Afghanistan.

While characterising as "sheer falsification" the U.S. contention that Soviet intervention in Afghanistan comes in the way of detente, Soviet authorities rule out any early pull-out of their forces, unless the U.S.A.

and China stop using Pakistan as a "springboard" for subverting the Government in Afghanistan.

A high-level spokesman of the Foreign Office, involved in policy formulations, said that the USSR had consciously avoided embarking on the road to confrontation despite the Americans' "aggravating" the global situation. The U.S. Government considers further development in detente is disadvantageous to them. "This is the essence of the situation".

The spokesman was asked how long Soviet presence in Afghanistan would be necessary and if he saw any prospect of a withdrawal before the end of 1980. He replied that it was quite logical: if foreign interference had been stopped, there would be no need for Soviet troops being there.

Mr Karmal is implementing many social and economic reforms for his people and this "process of consolidation and positive development" continues to gain momentum. But there was the parallel process of an "undeclared war" started by Americans jointly with the Chinese, using Pakistan as a spring-board. Britain was also involved in this. "They have not stopped forming gangs of rebels to continue and step up their activities".

The Soviets alleged that successive changes in Afghanistan between 1974 and 1979 were overlooked by Americans until Mr Amin's regime was brought to an end. "The (Americans) were particularly interested in Amin, with whose help they had hoped to intrude into the internal affairs of Afghanistan. It should be clear to everyone that neither from the political nor legal nor factual viewpoints, the western propaganda against our policy in Afghanistan is well grounded".

Development in Afghanistan, in the Soviet view, cannot

cloud the fact that the USSR consistently stands for the cause of peace and it is fully backed in this course not only by the countries of the Socialist community but also by "progressive and peaceful States like India".

Zia Postpones Poll Again

General Zia-ul-Haque on October 4 once again ruled out general elections in his country, this time giving the argument that in the context of the regional situation this was not the opportune time, according to Radio Pakistan. Elections now could "undermine the country's stability at a critical moment", he feared. Meanwhile he continues to rule his country with the assistance of the military. Martial law remains in force, though Gen. Zia often talks of establishing a semi-civilian administration. He does not command the support of the majority of his people either. So he devises gimmicks to divert the people's attention.

Elections were after all "a means to an end, and not an end in itself", he said. Pakistan's 1973 democratic Constitution had not been "abrogated", he asserted, but it was being used to bring the country "in line with the Islamic system".

Speaking on foreign policy, General Zia-ul-Haque stressed that Pakistan's "special relationship" with China and its identity with the "Islamic fraternity" came above all other postulates, including "complete non-alignment and equi-distance with the super powers". This policy had "yielded good dividends".

The Pakistan President also addressed the inaugural opening of the U.S.-Pakistan Economic Council, a private body of businessmen of both countries. He mentioned the steps his Government had taken to encourage the private sector and called upon American business to

build up trade and investment in Pakistan.

Radical Reforms in Canada

The Canadian Prime Minister, Mr Pierre Elliott Trudeau, announced on October 3, sweeping Constitutional reform proposals to assure all Canadians fundamental human and language rights for the first time in their 113-year history. And this is believed to be the beginning. There should be more to follow.

The long-awaited proposals require the British Parliament to "send home" Canada's current Constitution, the British North America Act of 1867.

The Opposition leader, Mr Joe Clark, called Trudeau's plan "an arbitrary measure" that could lead to a divisive referendum, prolonged court battles and turmoil in federal-provincial relations. He felt that a new Constitution "cannot be arbitrarily imposed on this nation by one person or one government with threats, ultimatums and artificial deadlines".

The British North America Act, technically controlled by the British Parliament, currently functions as the Canadian Constitution. Mr Trudeau offered a resolution asking the British to relinquish control of the Act, "patriating" it to Canada.

Currently, the British Parliament must approve all amendments to the Constitution. Canadian Government officials have said they expect full co-operation on their request for return and that the rights and tax disbursement amendments be added in London.

The Trudeau proposals would guarantee rights in the Constitution that are binding on the federal and provincial governments and allow the courts to judge cases involving alleged violations. Individual Rights are not guaranteed in writing in the British North America Act,

although they exist as a tradition or in specific statutes.

Schmidt Back to Power

Chancellor Helmut Schmidt's Social Democratic Party was again returned to power in the general elections held in West Germany, the results of which were announced on October 6. The ruling left Liberal Coalition won an overall majority of 45 seats in the Bundestag (Lower House).

The opposition coalition of Christian Democratic Union (CDU) and the Christian Social Union (CSU), which got about four per cent less votes than what they got in 1976, still remain the biggest parliamentary group in the Bundestag.

The real gainers were, however, the Liberal Free Democrats (FDP) of the Foreign Minister, Mr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, who improved their position from seven per cent of the votes polled in 1976 to 10 per cent.

The Leftist Social Democratic Party of Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, however, showed only a marginal improvement of 0·3 per cent. They scored about 43 per cent votes.

In the new Parliament the SPU will have 218 seats (214 in 1976), the FDP 53(39), and the NDU/CSU 226(243).

The majority in the Bundestag will enable the ruling coalition to continue with what Chancellor Schmidt calls a "peace policy towards our neighbours of East and West". The Social Democrats would have to make policy concessions to the Liberals.

In a TV interview Mr Schmidt said the West Germans have shown political maturity in endorsing his policies and he would continue to work for an East-West dialogue and detente; the course of West German

foreign policy would not change.

Internally, however, the Government is burdened with a national debt of 500 billion Deutsche Marks. Apart from this, there are energy problems, national security and the terrorist movement to consider.

Drive to end World Poverty

The acceleration of economic growth and elimination of absolute poverty remain elusive goals of humanity despite all the loud talk at many levels for worldwide co-operation to tackle these tasks. Mr Robert McNamara, World Bank President, who will retire in June, 1981, and who has been a consistent advocate of the cause of the world's poor, pointing this out, renewed his plea at the 13th and his final joint annual meeting of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The two goals are related. But Governments sometimes were tempted to pursue one without adequate attention to the other to the obvious detriment of the development effort. "The pursuit of growth without a reasonable concern for equity is ultimately socially destabilising." And the pursuit of equity without a reasonable concern for growth merely tends to redistribute the deprivation of economic stagnation.

The World Bank President was particularly concerned over the deterioration in global economic prospects over the past year and its adverse impact on oil-importing developing countries in the years immediately ahead.

Over the past 18 months alone new increases in oil prices more than doubled the cost of imported energy for developing nations. Simultaneously, the continuing recession in developed countries that comprise their most important markets, severely limited the demand for dev-

loping country exports. The two factors had combined to impose on oil-importing developing countries "huge and potentially unsustainable" current account deficits estimated in 1980 to reach 4 per cent of their combined Gross National Product.

In 1973 oil import bill of the developing nations was \$ 7 billion. It was likely to be \$ 67 billion in 1980 and an estimated \$ 124 billion in 1985. The most probable outcome for at least the next five years is that the annual average *per capita* growth of oil-importing developing countries—which was 3·1 per cent in the 1960s and 2·7 per cent in the 1970s—will drop in 1980-85 to 1·8 per cent.

More depressing still is the outlook for the 1·1 billion people who live in the poorest countries. Their already desperately low *per capita* income, less than \$ 220 per annum, is likely to grow by no more than one per cent a year—an average of only \$ 2 or \$ 3 per individual. There should even be negative growth for the 141 million people in the low-income countries of sub-Saharan Africa.

The industrialised nations too continued to grapple with the problems of inflation, unemployment and recession, and were searching for politically feasible ways of reducing public expenditures. There was thus no legislative initiative to increase the already minuscule rate of official development aid.

Mr McNamara warned against a climate of apprehension in which developing countries might be tempted to postpone internal policy changes required to adjust to the new external conditions and developed nations might "turn to short-sighted protectionist and restrictive measures that in the end only delay economic recovery for the rich and poor nations alike."

Developing countries will have to make those structural changes in their economies that can enable them to pay from their own resources for increasingly more expensive but necessary oil. This can only be done by expanding their export or by reducing their non-oil imports or by some combination of the two.

Apart from such structural adjustments, adequate external financial assistance would also be vital if the development programmes of poor nations were to be maintained. Special emphasis is therefore laid on financial mediation by the World Bank and other international institutions in the task of recycling to developing countries a portion of the more than \$ 100 billion a year of additional surpluses now being earned by oil nations.

The outgoing President enumerated the following goals for the World Bank in the 1980s: Increasing its lending programme to offset the unanticipated levels of inflation; financing structural adjustment without reducing planned development finance, financing an expanded energy development programme without cutting assistance to other vital programmes; responding to the development needs of China but not at the cost of other borrowers.

China may Displace India

Mr Robert McNamara, World Bank President, has proposed that the ratio between the banks' capital base and outstanding debts must be enhanced by amending appropriately the articles of agreement in order to enable it to expand its lending programme to developing countries hit by the current economic crisis.

His support to a revision of this ratio—known as the "gearing ratio"—was in line with the recommendations of the Willy

Brandt commission, and also with the views of a number of developing countries, including India. This was the highlight of his valedictory address to the annual meeting of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund.

Bank sources said that it was relatively easier to go in for additional borrowing by raising the "gearing ratio" than through another capital increase. The capital base was raised recently and formalities, therefore, are still incomplete.

Mr McNamara sought enhancement of the Bank's lending resources to accommodate the claims of China for concessional bank assistance and also to meet larger volume of such credit by developing countries. He also outlined his views on the structural changes that would become necessary to deal with their critical balance of payment problems and rising developmental needs.

The Bank's concessionary lending programme is tied to the population factor and it is expected that China will displace India as the largest aid recipient. Mr McNamara did not attempt comparisons but said the Chinese entry would increase the claim on the bank's lending resources by several billions of dollars every year.

"If we had to accommodate these needs within the lending programme planned earlier, we should have to reduce sharply our lending to the other member countries." This would seriously disrupt their development programmes. An addition to the lending programmes is clearly required.

Plight of Oil-Poor Third World

The urgent duty of the rich oil producers (the OPEC countries) to assist the Third World's poor nations was highlighted by

Mr R. Venkataraman, India's Finance Minister, at the joint annual meeting of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund on October 2. The meeting was a virtual summit of world Finance Ministers and World Bank Governors. The plight of the non-oil-producing countries as a result of the soaring oil prices was stressed. Mr Venkataraman's was a daring attack on the oil producers' selfish policies. "Until now there has been a sort of conspiracy of silence regarding criticism of the big oil producers, particularly the super-rich Arab States surrounding the Persian Gulf lest it break up the Third World solidarity.

He expressed the hope that the distribution of assistance from both the developed and the capital-surplus oil countries would be more broad-based and more of it would go to the low-income countries. The World Bank, as the leading development agency, should mobilise opinion in the developed countries as well as the capital surplus oil countries for higher levels of official development assistance.

Mr Venkataraman's remarks come at a time when both Saudi Arabia and Kuwait—the richest of the oil-rich countries—have balked at making further money available for World Bank and IMF loans unless the Palestine Liberation Organisation is granted "observer status" at these global economic meetings.

The Finance Minister also criticised the U.S.A. for its recent action in imposing countervailing duties on some Indian exports. The U.S.A. has accused India of subsidizing these products to enable them to undersell similar products produced within the U.S.A.

Mr Venkataraman did not name the U.S.A. as the object of his remarks. But his reference was unmistakable: "We

are also disturbed by the failure on the part of some developed countries to understand the rationale of export subsidies in developing countries and unilaterally to deny them some of the benefits under GATT. We earnestly hope that enlightened self-interest will reverse this protectionist trend. It is now well established that an increase in the exports of developing countries brings in turn an increase in the demand for external goods of the developed countries.

The Finance Minister tried to minimise the effect which the entrance of China into the World Bank might have in giving India a thinner slice of the Bank's highly desirable no-interest long-term International Development (I.D.A.) Association loans.

U.S. Gesture to India

For political and other reasons, the U.S. Government has withdrawn the highly controversial countervailing duties which it had imposed on the import of Indian textiles in July this year. These duties had come as a great blow to Indian textile exporters, especially those catering to the American market by sending readymade garments.

The decision, announced on October 1, will benefit exports of a wide range of textile fabrics and garments. The U.S.A. imports nearly a quarter of India's total exports of these items.

The US International Trade Commission had upheld the Indian contention that the cash support given to the exporters by the Government of India did not amount to "subsidy". Indian exporters who have made deposits after the imposition of the duty will get refund, according to Mr Martin Heflin, Counsellor for Economic Affairs in the U.S. Embassy in Delhi.

The U.S. decision has been welcomed by the Indian exporters and the Commerce Ministry.

In 1978-79 the USA imported Rs. 249·7 crores worth of textiles which was 23·7 per cent of India's total exports. Cotton fabrics included articles, floor covering, tufted carpets, woven textile fabrics, woven fabrics, man-made fibres and a variety of garments.

The countervailing duty, ranging between 2·5% and 15%, was imposed on the ground that Indian textile items were reportedly heavily subsidised by the Indian Government and hurt the U.S. textile industry badly. India, however, argued that the cash assistance given by the Government was in the nature of refunds of the indirect taxes paid by manufacturers and exporters.

The latest decision showed that the subsidies code being adopted by the U.S.A. did not mean "doom" for Indian exports to the USA. The American authorities were willing to re-open negotiations with India at any time about the subsidies code.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

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promulgated by the President on September 23, vests more powers in the executive by amending the Criminal Procedure Code with a view to effectively deal with habitual criminals and those creating enmity between different groups and communities.

Certain powers under the Cr. P.C. hitherto enjoyed by the Central and State Governments will now be exercised by the district magistrates and executive magistrates. The grant of bail to habitual offenders has been made more difficult.

The Transformation of China

Dramatic developments have taken place in China during the past few months, and these involve not only the pattern of political leadership (a new generation is now on top) but also the Government's policies, national as well as international. In fact, the face of new China is now so different that the international community, long accustomed to an aloof, self-centered Communist giant, can hardly believe that Beijing (Peking) has begun to present an open window to the world at large and has adopted what seem to be liberal and progressive policies.

This process of modernisation has, of course, been welcomed by other countries, big and small, except the Soviet Union, which has for years been a bitter ideological adversary of China. But even now, the secretive nature of Chinese activity continues. No one outside China, and many people within the People's Republic of China itself, can be sure as to what has really happened in that country and why, apart from the known leadership changes at the top.

Some aspects of the Chinese riddle have, however, ceased to be mysterious. First, there has been the dethroning of Mao Tse-tung, for decades regarded and virtually worshipped as the Chinese god and mentor, the father of the famous Cultural Revolution, whose word was the gospel for the masses and whose portrait was to be found everywhere in China, in homes, offices, shops and all public

places. Maoism has been disowned both literally and spiritually. The Mao gospel has been decried and discarded; his portraits have been removed; the anti-Mao campaign sought to tell the people that the great Chairman, for long regarded as infallible and the real builder of modern China, was mistaken in many of his beliefs and policies. The changed conditions, it was argued, required a reversal of his themes and the adoption of new doctrines to lift the country out of virtual chaos and stagnation in which it lately found itself. Early this year (1980) a reassessment of Mao started; there was indirect criticism and at times pointed censure of the "great helmsman".

The reassessment of Mao had, in fact, begun in October, 1979, during the 30th anniversary of Communist rule, when the party criticised the "leftist errors" of the past and expressed the view that the "Gang of Four" had repeatedly exploited mistakes made in launching the Cultural Revolution in 1966. The Mao cult was attacked in official Chinese journals; at first Mao's radical followers were blamed for the decade of chaos; later Mao himself was made the target.

The next notable development was the clearance of former Chinese President, Liu Shao-chi, of the charge of being a "revisionist"—which was the main allegation against him during the Cultural Revolution. Mr Liu died in prison in 1969 and was officially rehabilitated early in 1980. The terms

"renegade, traitor and scab", which had been attached to his name in 1968 when he was disgraced, were removed when his image was restored this year. Later he was given a Head of State funeral.

A few days later, on April 16, came a sweeping reshuffle which was interpreted as a "house-cleaning operation". The Standing Committee of China's Parliament decided to appoint two new Vice-Premiers and dismiss two others. The new Vice-Premiers are: Mr Zhao Ziyang, formerly a party boss, and Mr Wan Li, who was purged during the Cultural Revolution.

The political developments in China, especially the changes in Vice-Premiers and other dignitaries, clearly showed that Mr Deng Xiaoping was gradually strengthening his position. Chairman Hua Guofeng was critical of Deng and the latter's protege, Mr Ziyang, who was generally regarded as the probable successor of Mr Hua as Prime Minister. Most of the key positions in the party and the Government were occupied by Mr Deng's supporters. The internal party struggle for power was unmistakable, and so was the outcome.

For the next few months Hua was reported to be feeling uneasy. The Senior Vice-Premier, Mr Deng Xiaoping, was trying to lead China to modernisation, power and higher living standards, as against orthodoxy of the party. He had already discarded Mao's insistence on ideological

purity before practical results. Significantly, a major article in "People's Daily" said that disastrous mistakes were inevitable when one man's disposition could affect a whole nation. That was a clear censure of Mao.

Countless people believed, however, that consolidation of Mr Deng's power could not be enough to ensure China's smooth transformation into a modern nation of his dreams. People even became cynical about the promised utopia which had eluded them at least once before.

In August, 1980, the Chinese Premier, Mr Hua Guofeng, and five Vice-Premiers, including strongman Deng Xiaoping, resigned. Their resignations had been forecast much earlier. The demise of the Mao cult was also confirmed about that time. The new slogan was "The Chinese way to modernisation". This meant public ownership of the means of production, and the dictatorship of the proletariat.

Even though the new Chinese leadership has repudiated many of the domestic policies advocated by Chairman Mao, it is remarkably consistent in pursuing his anti-Soviet line in foreign policy—the only survivor of the Mao era. When the third plenary session of China's National People's Congress opened in Peking on August 29 this year, it was well known that the Chinese leadership would undergo major changes and the country's Constitution would also be modified to suit the changed conditions.

On August 31, Beijing announced a new economic order that would reassure any Western capitalist that enterprise was alive and well in the Socialist People's Republic. China's new economic policy called for a large and experimental system

of self-management in the 6600 State-managed enterprises which have been promised a greater decision-making authority. In 1981 some large enterprises will also be allowed to experiment with direct foreign trade.

Among the other significant changes in the economic sphere are a systematic taxation system which would cover joint enterprises started with Chinese and foreign investment and also individual citizens. A tax on individual incomes is, in fact, a revolutionary step in a Communist State, even though the number of people to be brought under the net will be hardly 20 in an estimated population of over 90 crores. Another major reform is a new citizenship law which bans dual nationality—a plan that runs counter to the basic Chinese concept about the status of those born to Chinese parents, irrespective of the place of birth.

The changes in Peking, according to well-informed sources, represent a shift of effective power from the centres of authority within the Communist Party to leaders in the Government. Mr Deng's trend towards modernisation and a more open attitude to the world is well known.

On September 10, the changes in the Chinese leadership became official when the National People's Congress approved of the appointment of Mr Zhao Ziyang to succeed the Communist Party chairman, Mr Hua Guofeng, as Premier of China and also approved the nomination of three new Vice-Premiers. The new Vice-Premiers are: Foreign Minister Mr Huang Hua, Mr Zhang Aiping (an armed forces Deputy Chief of Staff), and Mr Yang Jingren (head of the Nationalities Affairs Commission dealing with China's ethnic minorities). In an official comment, Mr Zhao Ziyang explained that the

reshuffle and reform in the political system was "intended to solve the problem of over-concentration of power and life-long tenure for cadres." Such concentration is deemed "detrimental to democracy". He claimed, however, that there was "no change in China's fundamental policies despite the personnel changes."

As for the "Gang of Four", which has been accused of anti-Chinese activities and which is led by the widow of the late Chairman Mao Tse-tung, Madam Chiang, the members will be tried soon by the Supreme Court.

What is now the future of China and what would be the impact of developments in that country on world affairs and international relations? The general impression is that, by and large, the changes in leadership will mostly affect that country's internal set-up and will not have much impact on international affairs. But a new alignment of forces has already taken place: the signing (in September) of four wide-ranging agreements between China and the U.S.A. the effect of which is a closer affinity between China and the U.S.A., and virtual isolation of the Soviet Union. Thus the world's most prosperous capitalist country has joined hands completely with the Communist giant of the East, the world's most populous country, against the third super power, the Soviet Union.

Secondly, the National People's Congress has advanced China's search for political stability and the process of institutionalisation in the sprawling republic. But China's basic economic problems have not yet been solved, and the economic indicators (the criteria by which a country's economic well-being is judged) are not very encouraging, despite the fact

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The Crisis of Urbanisation

A U.N. conference on "Population and the Urban Future", held in Rome early in September, declared that by the year 2000 more than half the world's population will live in cities. In the two decades between 1980 and 2000 A.D., because of the urbanisation process the world will see the most radical changes ever known in social, economic and political life. The total world population is likely to reach 6·2 billion; of which the urban population will be about 3·2 billion, with most of them living in cities situated in the developing countries.

Some idea of the radical change in the situation can be had from the fact that while today there are 26 cities with a population of 5 million or more, there will be 60 of these "super cities" with a total population of 650 million by the end of the century. The mounting pressure on urban centres makes it imperative that measures should be taken to ensure a more just distribution of wealth between nations and also within nations. Such steps alone would help improve the quality of life in large areas.

The dismal situation demands a reorientation of national and international policies, especially a strategy of national planning for the future of the world's cities and also a global population policy. There is no time to be lost and, therefore, the U.N. has urged that the necessary measures should be planned by all countries by 1985. The urgency of measures

by international organisations and the various governments of the developed countries to increase their aid and support to help cities and countries to tackle the complex problems of urbanisation has also been stressed. The crisis is virtually upon mankind, although many people may not yet feel the impact of the new situation. The older giants, London, New York and Paris, are unlikely to expand further because they are full and there is little room for additions, but Mexico City, which has a knack of doubling itself in population every 20 years, will expand further.

Had it been merely a question of controlling population and ensuring the provision of additional amenities for the newcomers, the problem would not have been so serious. But the futurologists of the Rome Conference envisage a scenario of misery, deprivation and conflict—unless preventive measures are taken right from now. The programme is supposed to be simple enough, though it may not be so easy to implement it. The suggested remedy is to formulate rational programmes for controlled expansion of urban concentrations. This also implies control on the growth and distribution of populations on a national scale. Since the number of births even now outstrips the deaths in towns and cities, the expansion is not always caused by rural migrations

Another aspect of the problem relates to the nature of the concentration. Four out of every 10 persons alive today are

living in urban areas. The movement to the cities has been described by U.N. demographers (population experts) as the greatest mass migration in human history. If the trend towards larger and larger cities continues, the situation may get out of control, and it would then be even more difficult to push people out of certain congested areas. It needs to be noted that cities of five million people did not exist until the beginning of the 20th century. Today there are 26 cities which have 5 million or more people. The expansion is obviously caused by two factors—migration and natural population increase.

A truly frightening aspect is that from one-fourth to one-half or even more of the people in many Third World cities live in slums. Urban poverty is no less serious than rural poverty, despite the existence of cinemas, roads, schools, factories and gardens at some places. The distribution of the benefits of "modernisation" is overwhelmingly slanted towards the cities. There are hospitals, virtually free water supply, drainage, electricity facilities and cultural activities in cities, but the chief attraction for rural incomers is the urban economy and the prospects of earning money. The average income in cities is twice, thrice or even four times as high as in the villages. There is heavy concentration of investment in cities. This draws people to the towns, regardless of the insanitary living, the higher prices of all goods and the acute accommodation problems.

The phenomenon of urbanisation is now assuming serious proportions in India also. Cities like Calcutta, Madras, Bombay, Kanpur and Delhi show the same overcrowding, the same insanitary conditions, the same acute pressures on water supply, other municipal services and housing, and the same trend of ever-growing slums. The cities are expanding in an unplanned and haphazard manner. Where plans do exist they are not seriously implemented and the actual growth seems to be beyond anyone's control. There is, in consequence, a wasteful use of a severely limited asset—land. If the pace of industrialisation had been adequate and better planned, the population increase could have been satisfactorily absorbed, but that, unfortunately, has not been the case. If the rapid growth of the metropolitan cities is not checked, there would be a major imbalance between the available services and the size of the population that has to be catered to.

To a large extent, the expansion of cities is unavoidable and has to be accepted as a reality to be recognised. Restrictions on movement of people are almost impossible to impose, and any plans in that direction are worse than useless. Suitable alternatives have, therefore, to be devised, and this precisely is the challenge that has to be squarely faced.

The present ratio of rural and urban population in India is 80 : 20, but the ratio is changing in favour of the cities. As against an overall population growth rate of 24·7 per cent during the decade 1961-71, the urban population grew at the rate of 38·23 per cent. The differential growth rate is something that calls for urgent notice and remedial action. According to the 1971 census, towns with a population of over half a million had a growth rate of 53·5 per cent during the decade;

the corresponding growth rate for towns with a population of less than 50,000 was only 13·26 per cent. Again, towns with a population of less than 10,000 people expanded by only 1·42 per cent for the decade 1961-71.

This means that villagers in search of a better living bypass the small towns and opt for the bigger cities; the lure of big city life seems to be irresistible, despite the higher cost of living and the numerous inconveniences. Consequently, the gap between country and town is increasing rapidly. To illustrate the point further: 19 per cent of the urban population lives in metropolitan cities of over 1 million people each, and another 30 per cent in cities with a population range of 1 lakh to 1 million.

Thus about half the urban population lives in large cities of over 1 lakh people. It is clear that if this trend continues, there will be only villages and larger cities, with only a few and largely insignificant small towns, neglected and doomed to an insignificant existence with little hope of rapid development. It is imperative that we evolve a clear policy on urbanisation so as to check the drift.

The Planning Commission has already recognised the gravity of the situation. "The most disquieting feature of the urbanisation process", it has said, "has been the substantially larger proportion of population getting concentrated in large metropolitan cities as compared to the small and medium townsthe thrust of the urbanisation policy during the next decade must, therefore, be to increase the rate of growth of the small and medium towns." But so obsessed are the planners with power, irrigation, etc., that low priority is being given to this question of checking a tendency that may in the long run upset all the calculations of the Government and the Planning

Commission. Only about 4·47 per cent of the total Sixth Plan outlay has been earmarked for urban development, and this includes all the allocations for housing, urban water supply and sanitation.

An urban infrastructure that would absorb the population migrating from villages to the towns is urgently indicated. It is also clear that by allotting more and more money for rural development this migration to the cities is unlikely to be checked because the average villager wants good employment; he is, moreover, lured by the stories he has heard of the luxuries in cities which he cannot even dream of in the countryside or the small towns.

A few weeks ago the Government of India decided to set aside a special amount for the development of small towns of less than one lakh population. This step may indicate the beginning of a new urban policy; if earnestly pursued, it could help evolve a new pattern of rural-urban development in the next two decades so that by the end of the century this country could claim to have a harmoniously developed territory with the minimum of social tensions.

There need be no doubt that the present trend of villagers to bypass the small towns can be checked if these towns are properly and systematically developed. Adequate educational and medical facilities should be provided there, not only for the present population of these towns but also for the surrounding areas, say, up to a distance of 30 km so that the people wishing to settle in semi-urban areas may feel sure that they will have the amenities of urban life. Besides, some of the facilities available in big cities such as job opportunities and cinemas should be provided in the smaller towns. Moreover, it would
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Sixth Five-Year Plan Framework—An Assessment

For increasing involvement of the youth of the nation in the long and arduous journey of building a prosperous and egalitarian society, it is necessary to have a proper understanding of the goals of our national plans, of the resources required and the programmes envisaged. This feature attempts to initiate an assessment of the plan-frame recently released by the Planning Commission as a first step towards the formulation of the new plan, 1980-85.

—Editor.

I. Introduction: “Plan for prosperity”. This laudable objective guided the godfathers of planning in our country. But now, after a lapse of 30 years, the question being asked is: Whither planning?

When the Congress party government was ousted in March 1977 elections, the Janata party, which came into power, terminated the fifth five-year plan (1974-79) and initiated a new five-year plan effective from April 1, 1978. It was still in embryo (having not crossed beyond the draft stage) when its godfathers were voted out of power (at the Centre) by the Congress party under the dynamic stewardship of Mrs Indira Gandhi. It was in January 1980. With that change in the political scenario came the end of the Janata party's five-year plan (1978-83). The new government re-constituted the Planning Commission to complete the process of blood transfusion for plan rejuvenation. Within a few months of its formation, the Planning Commission has shot forth a new plan-frame ostensibly to reflect the thinking of the new government. What are its salient features? Does it carve a new path and give a new direction to planning? Or is it merely old wine in new bottles? These crucial questions merit attention here.

II. Features: The salient features of the plan-frame docu-

ment may be studied under three broad heads: (a) objectives; (b) resource mobilisation; and (c) programme thrusts. Taking each *sciatim*.

(a) *Objectives*: With admirable aim to create in India a more dynamic and egalitarian society, the Planning Commission outlines the plan objectives as follows: (i) a significant step-up in the overall growth rate of 5 per cent per annum; in agriculture 4 per cent; in industry 8 to 9 per cent and in exports 10 per cent annually. This is proposed to be achieved through more efficient use of the existing as well as new capital, higher productivity in all sectors and modernisation of production techniques. (ii) a progressive reduction in the incidence of poverty and unemployment by improving the quality of life of the people in general, and of the socially and economically vulnerable section of society, in particular; by adopting public policies which have a bias for the poor and reduce regional development disparities and personal distribution of income and wealth. (iii) Economic and technological self-reliance. (iv) Population control through voluntary (and not coercive) birth control measures. (v) Speedy development of indigenous sources of energy, with proper emphasis on conservation and efficiency in the use of energy. (vi) People's involvement in the process of development through appropriate edu-

cation, communication and institutional strategies.

(b) *Resource mobilisation*: The aggregate outlay postulated for the sixth plan, 1980-85, is Rs. 156,000 crore at 1979-80 prices. Of this, the share of the public sector will be Rs. 90,000 crore (about 58 per cent of the total outlay). The balance of Rs. 66,000 crore (about 42 per cent) will be the allocation for the private sector.

The emphasis for the requisite resources is on tapping the domestic sources. But even if the internal and external sources are fully exploited there will still remain an uncovered gap/deficit financing to the tune of Rs. 4000 crore. The net external assistance (including borrowings) will account for Rs. 7765 crore (or 8·6 per cent of the aggregate public sector outlay).

Unlike the past, not much reliance is placed on taxation as a source for financing the plan. Even so, efforts will be made to mobilise Rs. 7500 crore by way of additional taxation during the sixth plan period. “This is not an unrealistic target” according to the plan-frame document. While there would be no tax holiday, the diffidence to resort to taxation for the plan is justified by the fact that on present reckoning about one-fifth of the national income is taxed away. There is, thus, need for tax reduction rather than tax enhancement, advocates the approach paper.

The Planning Commission also emphasises "on" securing higher returns from the massive investments in the public sector enterprises such as railways, steel and coal. The losses from the State Electricity Boards and the Road Transport Corporations must be reduced and the returns from the Irrigation projects improved in order to augment the plan finances.

Public savings can be effected to reduce the income-expenditure gap. Not only has the non-plan and non-development expenditure to be curtailed, but subsidies need to be cut down. The current year's budget has already set the ball rolling by reducing the net burden of fertiliser subsidy by Rs. 2100 crore. Food subsidy is yet another drag on our limited resources.

The incidence of aid is proposed to be reduced by increasing export earnings (minimum export target is set at 10 per cent annual growth rate), encouraging remittances from abroad and securing larger inflows from the OPEC on mutually beneficial terms. At the same time, import bill will not be allowed to swell by promoting import substitution and developing energy substitutes for oil such as coal, electricity. Oil prospecting and development will receive the highest priority to help contain the escalating cost of oil imports, which, in the last analysis, generate cost-push inflation.

The real value of the mobilised resources will be enhanced by securing price stability through the public distribution system. This system will be inched into the plan as a permanent feature.

III Programme thrusts: Only a few important and strategic programmes will be referred to here.

To make an assault on poverty (or unemployment), the

following programmes are envisaged: (1) In the institutional reform, the most important plank is the land reform. (2) Under accelerated rural development are included the co-ordinated activities of community development, increased production and productivity in agriculture, grass-root planning at village/panchayat level, expanding credit facilities for the landless and the village artisans. (3) For the small and marginal farmers, rural artisans, landless labourers, the educated unemployed and the socially backward people additional work opportunities will be created. As a result, at least one adult member per family will find employment. (4) Agricultural development will be an integrated programme incorporating forestry, fishing etc. Pulses and oilseeds production will receive priority. By the turn of the century, 125 million hectare of land will be brought under irrigation and a National Water Plan instituted shortly. (5) In the industrial sector, balanced growth, both inter-sectoral and intra-sectoral, will be the guiding principle, and "the leading role of the public sector in the industrial development of the country will be further strengthened". For obtaining the objective of self-reliance, high priority shall continue in favour of the basic industries such as steel, capital goods, fertilisers etc. Small, tiny and village industries will be more widely dispersed spatially to achieve regional balance and generate more employment potential. Oil prospecting and development will be intensified to make the country self-sufficient in this scarce energy source. (6) The population policy will be "open-choice" in the different methods of family planning. Coercion is ruled out. The objective however will be to reduce the net reproduction rate to one per cent by 1995. (7) The minimum needs programme as envisaged

in the fifth five-year plan (1974-79) will be continued which means "Revised minimum needs programme" minus 'Adult education'. (8) Special emphasis will be laid on involving the youth as the "pivot of public participation".

III. Assessment: (A) The frame-work of the sixth five-year plan is, at best, a good essay. One may try, in vain, for anything new in its objectives, strategy and sinews of the plan. Dr D.T. Lakdawala had rightly observed that no fundamental change in the plan, formulated under his stewardship, would be possible, given the parameters of the country's economy. (B) The hike in the plan outlay to Rs. 90,000 crore in the public sector is fundamentally due to the price effect and does not represent plan-size growth in real terms. Even if it be deemed a big plan, it may not necessarily be a better plan. Not only the quantum of investment but also the method of resource mobilisation and the pattern of investment play a vital role in the growth and development process. (C) As before, the resource flows would be dependent on deficit financing and the foreign aid. The prospects of higher returns from the public sector are bleak, indeed. Reliance on them is to rest on shaky and uncertain financial sources. (D) The emphasis remains on higher growth rate which now stands as a discredited goal of planning. The wage goods model advocated by the growth economists in the recent past is unacceptable to the Indian planners. (E) The basic industries will continue to dominate the public sector investment allocations in the industrial sector. The small and cottage industries seem to have been de-escalated from the heights proposed in the Janata Party's plan (now defunct). (F) The draft sixth five-year plan resulting from the "integration"

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Farm Mechanisation in India

This feature is devoted to highlight the problems and prospects of mechanisation of farms in India in the light of the recommendations of some of the recent studies and the report of the National Commission on Agriculture.

—Editor

I. What mechanisation means

Should farms in India be mechanised? Before launching upon this much-debated proposition, we may well begin with a brief explanation of the nature and scope of mechanisation of farms in India.

Mechanisation or tractorisation has to be viewed as a source of farm-power in the context of a growing and urgent need of energy in the seed-irrigation-fertilizer technology adopted for modernising agriculture. Mechanisation is not intended to cause displacement of the available bullock- or man-power but to serve as a supplement source of energy. Farm mechanisation has therefore to be selective mechanisation for different areas and for different farming system.

Is, then, mechanisation indispensable? What will be its impact on labour absorption, farm productivity and production? Will it accentuate unemployment? These are some of the crucial problems that will receive our attention here.

II. Against mechanisation

The modern technique of mechanised cultivation is, at once, rejected as unsuited to Indian conditions on various grounds: demographic, hydrological, ecological, agro-climatic and soil etc. Let us now consider some of them.

(a) **Demographic:** India is rich in man-power. The use of machinery being a labour-saving device, obviously, causes dis-

placement of labour. From the employment viewpoint, therefore, mechanisation is an ill-advised policy measure. V.M. Dandekar committee on tax measures to promote employment has recently come to the conclusion that harvester-combine almost wholly displaces harvesting and threshing labour, while the cost advantage is marginal or nil. The use of harvester-combine is estimated to displace 8.79 man-days per acre of wheat which is 95 per cent of the harvesting and threshing labour. The committee has recommended a ban on the import of harvester-combine. It may be recalled here that three research studies sponsored by the National Commission on Agriculture (NCA), 1976, reached a different "common finding" to the effect that "tractorisation displaced mainly bullock labour and its impact on agricultural labour was less conspicuous, the displacement being 60 per cent and 15 per cent, respectively".

(b) **Soil conditions:** Many parts of India have soft, alluvial soil and cannot stand heavy-weight machines used for various cultivation purposes. Instead of negating the argument for mechanisation, this argument emphasises the need for light-weight tractors and other machines.

(c) **Nature of crops:** Paddy is India's major food crop. Its sowing, transplantation and harvesting requires manual rather than mechanical labour. On

the contrary, in wheat growing machines are in use, especially in the larger farms in the wheat belt of Panjab, Haryana, U.P. etc. One might conclude that tractorisation is not vitally significant for meeting our agricultural needs.

(d) **Small farms:** Apart from the quality of land, an appropriate farm-size is necessary for optimal use of other inputs, including the machines such as tractors. The proportion of economically unviable holdings to the total farms is very large in India and the holdings are scattered. This constitutes a big inhibition to mechanisation or, at least, renders tractorisation an uneconomic exercise in terms of input-output calculus.

(e) **Productivity:** The economic rationality for the use of machines in a developing country, where labour abounds, is its contribution per worker, per unit area and time. Critics of mechanisation hold that a mechanised farm has a lower yield per unit area and time than a non-mechanised farm.

A host of other issues arise from these arguments. For instance, what type of machine should be used; what should be the size of the farm; how best to employ the various energy sources: manpower, animal power etc. The real problem, therefore, is not whether to mechanise or not to mechanise agriculture but of how mechanised agriculture can yield increased output per unit area and

per worker. Several studies have been made though they are not adequate for policy formulations. The NCA also urged that the problem of tractorisation be studied in greater thoroughness and depth to provide guidance in policy formulation.

Let us now consider some arguments in support of mechanisation.

III. For mechanisation

(1) **Energy requirements:** The role and source of farm power in the process of modernising agriculture have come to be recognised as important. The NCA has tentatively worked out that a power gap equivalent to the needs of 30 million hectare will have to be met by mechanisation by 2000 A.D. The overall requirement of tractors by then is estimated at 2·28 million and the effective power available from them would be 14 per cent of the total available power. Draught cattle will contribute about 20 per cent and men only 6·5 per cent. Electric motors, required mainly for irrigation, will account for 41 per cent.

(2) **Impact on labour:** The worst misgiving about farm mechanisation is that it tends to increase labour unemployment. The NCA unambiguously says: "Studies indicate that tractorisation facilitates intensive cultivation and diversification of cropping pattern and *does not generally lead to displacement of labour* (emphasis added). A still firmer view is that there is no evidence from any country to suggest that mechanisation or tractorisation has caused any displacement of human labour. In fact, the primary and secondary employment, taken together, increases. A recent NCAER (National Council of Applied Economic Research) study reveals that tractorisation of farms is advantageous for farm employment, productivity and income of the farmers.

Not only that. There is an occupational re-distribution of population as a result of which the total welfare of the farming community increases. The family labour finds deliverance from the more exacting farm chores and begins to play the managerial role. There is greater absorption of wage labour, particularly permanent farm servants.

(3) **Animal husbandry:** Like the human population, the animal population exerts excessive pressure on available resources needed for them. The result is that animals are under-nourished and inefficient. In the case of milch cattle, the milk yield is low; in the case of the draught animals, the capacity to work is low. With the mechanisation of farms, the demand for animal power will be reduced and bullock labour displaced to the extent of 60 to 70 per cent. The surplus draught animals so displaced can be done away with. Animal husbandry can then have an emphasis on raising efficiency and nutrition of animals. This is not to say that there will be a total exclusion of bullocks from farm operations. According to the NCA the country will have the existing strength of nearly 80 million bullocks even by the turn of the century.

(4) **Lower cultivation cost:** If farm machinery were available to small and marginal farmers on hire, many of their problems would be solved. The use of the bullock power is costlier on small farms than on large farms for the simple reason that the maintenance cost is fixed irrespective of its utilisation.

Moreover, it takes far less time and effort if the sowing, ploughing, harvesting, threshing and transportation operations are done with the help of a machine. Timely and quick operations are more conducive to undertake new cropping pat-

terns and improved technology for cultivation. One can do mixed farming also. Successfully executed, this will increase productivity and income of the agriculturists and help them to tide over the scourge of chronic poverty. The net impact of mechanisation on productivity in U.P. farms has, according to an NCAER study, been an increase of 57 per cent per cropped hectare.

(5) **Increased cropping intensity:** Due to power shortage, various agricultural operations in large-sized farms cannot be fully and effectively executed with bullock labour. It is estimated that cropping intensity in mechanised farms is 20 per cent higher than in non-mechanised ones because the agricultural operations are done in time and more efficiently.

(6) **Institutional reforms:** Since the attainment of Independence, the need for institutional reforms has been increasingly realized. Consolidation of holdings operations, co-operativisation and creation of viable holdings—all such measures will receive impetus under farm mechanisation.

(7) **Fuller resource utilisation:** Limited availability of suitable land for cultivation requires land development including land levelling and land shaping. This must receive high priority to ensure economic use of the limited water resources. Mechanised farms can facilitate this.

IV. Inhibitions

Even recognising that mechanisation has a stronger claim, one cannot brush aside some serious inhibitions to universal acceptance of mechanisation.

(i) **Attitude:** Rural India still lives in the bullock-cart age, as it were. The small and marginal farmers, in majority, hardly-

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ECONOMIC SCENE

- NDC deliberations
- CHOGRM-II
- Prospects for NIEO

NDC deliberations

Q. Comment on the deliberations of the National Development Council meeting held recently to consider the sixth plan framework.

Ans. At its two-day meeting, the National Development Council (NDC)—the supreme planning body in the country comprising the chief ministers of States and other invitees—reached three important decisions: (a) It accorded its “unanimous” approval to the “approach” of the sixth five-year plan, 1980-85; (b) The Gadgil formula for the transfer of resources from the Centre to the States was modified. According to the original formula, the Central assistance to the States (excluding Assam, Nagaland and Jammu and Kashmir) is distributed as under:

(i) On the basis of population:	60%
(ii) On the basis of <i>per capita</i> income (if below the national average)	10%
(iii) On the basis of tax effort in relation to <i>per capita</i> income	10%
(iv) On the basis of ongoing projects	10%
(v) On the basis of “special” problems (e.g., floods, drought, tribal areas)	10%

Under the new formula, States having less than the national average *per capita* income

will now be allocated 20 per cent instead of the existing 10 per cent of the shareable resources. The additional 10 per cent will be offset by discontinuing the 10 per cent provision made in the old formula for the on-going schemes. In effect, the new dispensation maintains the *status quo* and makes no improvement in the financial condition of the State. However, the change satisfied all: the States as well as the Centre. (c) The Centre conceded the demand of the chief ministers to give greater share to the States in the market borrowings.

The non-Congress (I) and some Congress (I) State chief ministers raised certain controversial issues which caused a flutter. The West Bengal representative expressed himself against the withdrawal of certain centrally-sponsored schemes.

Doubts were expressed about the “feasibility” of achieving the annual growth rate of 5 per cent with the “modest” outlay (according to Mrs Indira Gandhi) of Rs. 90,000 crore postulated for the public sector. Higher investment was advocated. Higher investment has to be matched with an equally higher quantum of resources. The latter, in turn, requires greater intensity of effort to mobilise resources. It may be recalled here that the Union Finance Minister, Mr R. Venkataraman, expressed his disappointment before the NDC with the performance of the States at resource mobilisation

during the current year.

The NDC emphasised raising tariff rates on power, irrigation and the transport services. The question is whether the tariff hike will not be counter-productive. The tariff raise will have a cascading effect on the price structure and this will strengthen the inflationary potential.

It was alleged that the plan frame contained contradictory and conflicting policies. The document, therefore, needed to be studied in depth and should not be hustled through.

CHOGRM-II

Q. Outline the economic issues highlighted in CHOGRM II.

Ans. The second 16-member* Commonwealth Heads of Government Regional Meeting (CHOGRM II) noted with deep concern the impending world economic crisis. The meeting visualised that in the eighties the world may suffer from slow growth, increased unemployment, high level inflation and an unprecedented balance of payment problem. The Conference, therefore, advocated several measures to give a boost to the global economy. Considering them sectorwise.

*Australia, Bangladesh, Fiji, India, Kiribati, Malaysia, Nauru, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Western Samoa.

1. Agriculture: In order to meet the growing demand for food for the burgeoning population, the Conference stressed regional co-operation to harness the expertise and experience in agricultural research and development for collective benefits of the member nations. This would also help in raising exportable surpluses from the farm sector and bridge the trade gap.

2. Industry: The establishment of the Industrial Development Unit (IDU) as a vehicle for industrial co-operation among the member countries and offer of technology and managerial know-how for transfer from Australia and India in support of the IDU were welcome decisions.

3. Trade: CHOGRM viewed with concern the protectionist trade practices and the possibility of a sudden escalation in protectionism in the event of a recession overtaking the rich countries. The protectionism has dealt a serious blow to the labour-intensive or low cost exports of the developing areas of the region.

The Conference wanted faster progress in setting up International Community Agreements.

As a clearing house of information, a Working Group on Industry has been set up.

4. Energy: The gigantic dimensions, which the world energy situation has assumed, drew pointed attention of the participants at the Conference. Facilities for training and research in various energy sources which are available with India and Australia were to be further developed and disseminated to other countries.

In sum, whatever the political differences of the different delegates at the conference, they were unanimous that co-operation and not confrontation

should be their guiding principle in economic matters.

Prospects for NIEO

Q. "The new international economic order will remain elusive as ever during the eighties". Discuss.

Ans. Hopes of establishing a New International Economic Order (NIEO) triggered off by the 1974 resolution of the United Nations General Assembly, have all but fizzled out. The current special session of the world body, now having 153 member States, has failed to reach an accord on formulating the procedural framework for launching North-South dialogue in January 1981, thanks to the recalcitrant attitude of the three big powers, namely the United States, West Germany and the United Kingdom. The UN special session was engaged in taking stock of the progress made in regard to NIEO as stipulated in the resolution adopted by it in 1977. Let us have a glimpse of what has been done for NIEO.

According to the latest (1980) World Bank report, the developing nations as a group, recorded an annual growth rate of 3·1 per cent during the decade 1960-70; 2·9 per cent during 1970-80 and is projected by the Bank to register a further fall to 2 to 2·6 per cent by the mid-eighties. Thus there is an absence of any improvement in the growth of developing countries during the seventies as compared with the sixties and there are clear pointers to the prospective deterioration. The Official Development Assistance (ODA) set at 0·7 per cent of the Gross National Product of the developed countries will not rise to more than 0·35—0·36 per cent by 1985. The developing nations are head and shoulders in debt. The external debts of non-oil producing countries

exceeded \$ 300 million with debt servicing appropriating nearly 25 per cent of their export earnings. The rich nations are reportedly spending 450 billion dollars on arms build-up! but would not like to part with less than one per cent of their GNP to help develop the poor.

The burden on the limited exchange resources is likely to exert more if protectionism is tightened following the recession in the industrialised countries and the continuing soaring prices of crude.

In view of the reported outcome of the 3-week long deliberations of the UN General Assembly, there is clearly a lack of political will on the part of the rich nations to usher in NIEO. They fail to recognise the mutual benefits of the new world order in which the developing countries will provide a much wider market for their goods and create employment potential for the developed countries. It is now widely recognised that even foreign aid is not a charity but a means to promote the interests of both the benefactor and the beneficiary.

So much about the defence of the poor. We might say a word about the other side, that is the viewpoint of the rich. The United States has given a big jolt to the UN efforts for a North-South dialogue referred to earlier. The plea of its delegation is that all issues involved in re-structuring the existing world order should be discussed and decided by the specialised agencies of the United Nations. Otherwise, it would be tantamount to interference with their autonomy. The apprehension of the third world countries is that these agencies are dominated by the rich and therefore their decisions cannot tilt in favour of the poor.

India's Unsolved Language Problem

Basically, a language is a medium of expression and means a vocabulary and the way of using it. Language and culture are closely linked, but it is not necessary that each language should represent a different culture. Nor has language any essential link with race or ethnic origins. People of different cultures and ethnic origins often speak the same language, just as people of the same race sometimes speak different languages. India, a country of continental dimensions, has countless languages and dialects, though the cultural string and theme is the same. In Europe the people are mostly of the same race but they speak different languages, French, English, Russian, etc. It is ironic that language which was supposed to provide a link, a medium of communicating with other people and hence a facility for establishing social contacts has often become the cause of conflict and even bloodshed.

Those who quarrel over languages and the issue of script seem to forget that throughout history there has been a link between the various world languages. It is a fashion these days to say that the world has shrunk and has become small because of the rapid strides in the means of communication—the radio, TV, the communication satellites and the press. But we should also remember that, despite the relatively scarce means of travel and communication, there has been a link between various languages. The world was equally small thousands of years ago. Research

and studies over the centuries have established the link between languages spoken in different parts of the world.

After all, people who travelled from one part of the world to another in olden times did manage to communicate their thoughts and feelings to others. For instance, there are undeniable similarities between the Dravidian languages and those of the aborigines in Australia. And, of course, there are many similarities, even common words, between the languages spoken in North India and those spoken in South, West or East India. Often the difference lies in the script, grammar, syntax, the stress on certain modes of expression and the sounds. But these do not make a South Indian language foreign for people in the North, nor should the Bengali and Assamese languages sound beyond the comprehension of people living in the northern and western parts of India.

The language disputes in India, which often take acute forms because of the aggressive postures adopted by some linguistic fanatics, relate, however, mostly to the controversy English *versus* Hindi. The basic problem stems from the firm and rigid stand of the Southern States against what they call the "imposition of Hindi" on them against their wishes. The so-called "imposition" is only for official work, for communications between the Centre and the States. Some other measures are also taken by the Centre from time to time in pursuance of the decision to make Hindi the national language,

the *lingua franca*. The Centre urges the States to encourage the study of Hindi, while many States of the South lay emphasis on their regional languages.

Hindi in Devanagari script is recognised by the Constitution (Article 343) as the official language, though 15 other languages are also officially recognised in the Eighth Schedule. The supreme status accorded to Hindi cannot be taken away by regional fanatics or those who are Anglicised Indians and favour the indefinite adoption of English as the official language. Unfortunately, Hindi protagonists are often described in Parliament and elsewhere as chauvinists and obscurantists. Every time the issue of ensuring the propagation of Hindi is raised, there is a heated debate. The Government of India is accused by South Indians of being Hindi-minded throughout, and they have their reasons.

Since the days of Jawaharlal Nehru assurances have been repeatedly given by Central Government spokesmen to the people of the South that there would be no imposition of Hindi on them and that the use of English would be permissible as long as the Southern States want it. The Official Languages Act, 1963, as amended, makes the position clear in this regard. Such assurances to pacify the opponents are reiterated with much force at election time. Nehru was not very fond of Hindi, but he said it was not a question of Hindi being better than Bengali or Tamil. The sole question, he explained, was that from a practical point of

view. Hindi is the only possible all-India language. Tamil might be richer, but other languages, including Bengali, are also rich and great. Considering the percentage of people speaking these languages and the much more larger percentage of people who speak (or can understand) Hindi, it is this language alone that can become the *lingua franca* of India. Nehru also favoured the adoption of Hindi as the medium of instruction. At a later stage, presumably for postgraduate studies, he said English might still be necessary for some years.

But from the standpoint of the advocates of Hindi, the tragedy is that this period of "some years" is getting prolonged, and there is no sign yet that the switchover from English to Hindi would be completed in the foreseeable future. In fact, the fear is growing that at the current rate of progress, which is indeed slow, Hindi might never become India's national language in the true sense. They quote the slogan raised by some outspoken South Indians: "English ever, Hindi never."

It is the words "compulsion" and "imposition" which create strong reactions. Mr Morarji Desai, then Prime Minister, said on January 19, 1979, that it was the patriotic duty of every true Indian to learn Hindi, but there was no compulsion. If there was any compulsion, it was the compulsion of patriotism and not of law. Reiterating the assurances given by Mr Nehru to the people of the South, Mrs Indira Gandhi said in Madras on May 12, 1980, during an election tour, that English would continue as the official link language as long as the people of the South wanted it and that there was no question of imposing Hindi on them.

Unfortunately, there is politics of language in the country,

and the emphasis varies with the political situation, that is, the emphasis is renewed whenever political exigencies demand such a course and the support of the people of the South has to be assured for election purposes. The emphasis on the role of Hindi also seems to vary with the occasion. For instance, in April this year Mrs Gandhi, speaking at a Delhi function where three new Hindi books were released, said no one could stop the progress of Hindi. She also expressed the view that Hindi would have a more unifying effect in course of time. In essence, these remarks are not contradictory to the assurances given to the South, but strong advocates of Hindi might have interpreted them as endorsement of their own view that Hindi would soon become the only official language. The observation might even be quoted in support of more vigorous—even aggressive—attempts to hasten the progress of Hindi. These overzealous lovers of Hindi start with the totally ill-conceived premise that the use of English in the country for governmental and other purposes is anti-national. English has become so common that it is wrong to describe it as anti-national or as an undesirable legacy of British rule.

Recently the U.P.S.C. permitted candidates to answer question papers in Hindi or in any of the regional languages they prefer. The option was designed to provide a greater and fairer chance to candidates who were not well up in English and to counter the criticism that urban youth educated in public schools managed to get most of the seats in the I.A.S. and other competitive examinations solely because of their command over English. But an analysis indicates that candidates, by and large, still prefer English as the medium owing to the fact that a study of this language opens up

much greater job opportunities than the regional languages. In the Central Services competitions in 1979 only 12 per cent candidates answered questions in Hindi and barely 2 per cent in other languages.

What are the factors that govern the candidates' preference of English for examinations? First, the candidates know that the official language, for all practical purposes, is still English; all office correspondence and notings at the Centre are done mostly in English, not in Hindi or any other language. Secondly, the bureaucracy (the civil servants at various levels) prefer English because it is the language their colleagues understand and they all find it convenient. It comes to them almost naturally in speech. Moreover, so far as they can see, there is no prospect of an early switchover from English to Hindi or any other language.

The prejudice against the use of English needs to be given up. The Hindi, of course, should be popularised further, but until it is adopted by a much larger section of the people, there is no point in insisting upon its use. After all, the people of the country as a whole have to be carried along together for any change or reform. Experience has shown that every vigorous drive to popularise Hindi in the South misfires and there is an adverse reaction.

Evidently, the time has not yet come to prefer Hindi to English in the administration and as the medium for competitive examinations. The practical difficulties in effecting a switchover are indeed formidable; smooth working of government offices may not be possible if all the work is ordered to be done in Hindi. Even as things are, government machinery moves very slowly; the use of Hindi will slow down the process still further, apart from baffling many people.

Elections and Corruption

Corruption is rampant throughout the country and has affected all walks of life to a lesser or greater extent. Perhaps the most glaring source of corruption is elections. Many people feel that if elections can somehow be eliminated or changed to a safer corruption-free system, much of the problem can be solved. But would that be an effective remedy? The proposition for discussion is: "The most effective panacea for corruption is the end or reform of the Indian electoral system."

Mr A: I feel convinced in my mind that the main source of corruption in India and several other countries of the East is the high cost of general elections. The electorate is so vast, covering about 35 crore adult voters, and the cost of the exercise held after every five years (sometimes earlier whenever there is a mid-term poll) so great, that in a poor country like ours the large amount of money required to win a Parliamentary or Assembly seat can come only through the black market or through generous donations by industrial houses and other rich people who have their own axes to grind. In sum, elections, corruption and black marketing are closely linked. Political leaders, political parties, legislators and voters all know the harsh reality, but few admit it. The reason is obvious: each legislator wishes to retain his or her seat, and each prospective candidate wishes to get into the privileged circle of legislators; so he himself becomes a participant in the system, indulges in graft and other malpractices, secures funds from every possible source in order to become an M.P. or M.L.A., regardless of the taint that attaches to inflows from dubious sources. It is also ironical that while the country's total electorate has expanded gradually, the corruption associated with elections has mounted rapidly, in fact at a baffling rate. Corruption has, in reality, be-

come as widespread as society is in this huge country, and it is the massive electorate that virtually compels the candidates to stoop to unbecoming tactics. The ruling classes, and even democrats, seem to prosper in a system that reeks with corruption. The democratic system is a complex one, and there are wheels within wheels, with corruption prevailing almost everywhere. No part of the electoral process seems to be free from this evil; money acts like the grease that makes the machines function smoothly. So, if elections are made simpler and free from malpractices by closing the loopholes for black money and bribery, the country would be a happier place to live in. This may seem like a paradox but there is no other remedy if corruption is to be eliminated from this country.

Mr B: I am afraid the basic premise on which Mr A has based his main argument is not quite sound. It is true that there is widespread corruption in the country and that the evil has permeated almost all ranks and levels. But I feel that electoral corruption and the use of black money in elections is only one field where corruption is rampant. The stark tragedy of the Indian situation is that this taint of corruption has eaten into the vitals of many other fields of human activity, social, economic and political. Even if

we concede, for argument's sake, that the election system can be made corruption-free (I fear this is impossible because elections are a very expensive business and almost all candidates have to get money from some source, good or bad), what about the corruption and bribery elsewhere? Look at the Government's administrative machinery; no file in a government office moves unless the clerk concerned is bribed. With every passing year such greasing of the palm of the dealing clerk or superintendent is becoming more daring and more open. It is now accepted as the normal practice, the usual thing, and no one, neither the giver nor the taker, feels any qualm of conscience when money thus changes hands. In recent years large sums of money; often running into lakhs, are paid to senior officials and Ministers as commission or "pay-off" whenever a large deal for buying a particular type of aircraft is struck for the defence forces, or a particular type of submarine or other sophisticated equipment is purchased in preference to some other type or manufacture. The commission is paid under the table and is not accounted for by the recipient. How would this form of blatant corruption be checked even if elections are made taint-free? Again, look at the police. Most policemen are believed to be corrupt; they take bribes from all offenders,

thieves, robbers, traffic rule violators and a host of others. These greedy people will not stop taking bribes even if elections are made purer and simpler. Policemen in fact have begun to regard the income from bribes as their normal due. They too have to feed their children, and aren't the others, including the seniors, accepting large gifts? So runs their argument. Even the higher grades of pay for policemen have made no difference. Actually, it is the easiest thing in the world to rationalise a wrong and to console one's soul. The modern world is largely soulless, anyway. Where is the conscience? It has gone with the wind and matters little. What matters these days is supplementing one's normal income somehow to maintain a good standard of living.

Mr C: I would like to supplement my friend Mr A's arguments. India has adopted the parliamentary system on the British model without the essential background, the political honesty, the moral character and the decencies of character that stem from good education. A country in which nearly 70 percent people are illiterate cannot be expected to become politically honest. No wonder money flows freely, along with wine, at election time. Lakhs of voters have to be wooed (some parliamentary constituencies have 6 to 7 lakh voters). The uneducated voter is not touched or won over by printed leaflets or party programmes. He can be won over with money, drink and other gifts. So if the election system is so changed as to eliminate opportunities for bribing the voters, the evil of corruption can be largely eliminated. We could, for instance, adopt the system of panchayati raj, with Parliament occupying the top position. People can learn how to vote at the grassroots level. The present race for collecting massive funds for elections

should stop. Election funds come mostly from black marketers or interested business concerns which naturally expect a *quid pro quo* in the shape of licences and permits for imports and other purposes. As a result, Indian elections have become a monetary deal and bargain, a transaction, and all concepts of democracy are clean forgotten. Where, indeed, are the Gandhian values by which our politicians swear? Where are the standards of honesty and of cleanliness and moral character on which our saints have laid stress? The root of the evil is the hunger for power, and this hunger is generally satisfied by getting political power (especially Ministerships) which in turn is obtained through elections. Reform the elections somehow, make them corruption-free and half the battle is won. At least that is how I feel. Even if indirect elections become necessary to attain this objective, I think we should go in for them. After all, what have we gained by direct elections based on adult franchise? Are we nearer our ideals and our goals? Oh, no. We are moving away from the high standards we were supposed to strive for. If the choice is between colossal corruption that now prevails everywhere and a less of democracy, I would opt for the latter. At least that would be free from the soul-killing bribery and graft for which our current system has become notorious.

Mr D: I think every realistic person who knows the depth, the stink and the other realities of corruption in this country will agree that the evil is deep-rooted. Elections started on a large scale only three or four decades ago, but corruption has been there much longer. It is increasing day by day in both form and content. All round us there is graft and bribery, and every issue of daily newspapers provides reports of scandals, seizures, adulteration, leakage

of revenue, black market, profiteering. All these are forms of corruption, dishonesty and erosion of character. The supply and distribution of sub-standard goods, the bogus medical bills submitted and passed for payment in collusion with chemists and office superintendents, the racket in LTC (Leave Travel Concession), the numerous frauds in cement, steel and fertilisers which the C.I.D. is asked to probe every month, not to speak of the bribing of M.P.s and M.L.A.s in the drives for toppling certain Chief Ministers or for other purposes—what is all this but rank corruption that exists and blooms whether elections are held or not. So I don't think this deep-rooted and far-reaching menace can be eliminated if elections are "purified". In fact, the evil will sprout in a hundred other ways if an attempt is made to end it in one sphere of activity. The fact that Ministers, and even the Union Cabinet, does not accept the findings of Vigilance Commissions accentuates corruption. Dishonest officials against whom enquiries are held find that they can get away and escape scot-free by sharing a part of their illicit gains with the superiors and people in high places. Even in August this year the Central Cabinet did not act on the findings of the Vigilance Department against 22 officials. Besides, it is not so easy to reform the process of elections to such an extent as to eliminate the scope for corruption. All the talk of turning Parliament into a super panchayati being scoffed at as wholly impracticable. Let us not go back to the ancient times or the Middle Ages; we have developed a multi-level set-up which is fully democratic, and we should maintain it. The remedy for corruption is through better education and prompt, deterrent action against culprits in whichever sphere of life they are found, so as to teach a lesson to others.

Positive Imagination—A Boon to Successful Living

Imagination grows by exercise and, contrary to common belief, is more powerful in the mature than in the young. —Somerset Maugham.

Cinderella of Mental Powers

The imagination has for long been the Cinderella of our mental powers. Will-power, concentration, and memory have been courted for decades. Imagination, on the other hand, has been neglected by common people and generally regarded as the prerogative of poets, artists, and literati.

In fact imagination is a quality we all possess in varying degrees and it is one which may be developed to our advantage.

Asset of Personality

Imagination is an asset of personality. As a psychologist observes, "Creative imagination is one of our most potent tools for living. It is one of the strongest forces in our lives." Without imagination mankind would have but made little progress. It was because some primitive man used his imagination that subsequent generations inherited the inestimable boons of controlled fire, the wheel, the needle and the knife. Subsequent creative thinkers gave us the pulley, the pump, the cog-wheel, the printing press, the internal combustion engine, the electric light bulb, radio, the television, jet propulsion and supersonic aircraft. As John Masfield says, "Man's body is faulty, his mind untrustworthy, but his imagination has made him remarkable."

Your Artist

Imagination is the artist in your brain. It paints pictures that either cheer you or depress you.

Unfortunately too many people use their imagination negatively. By so doing, they create a failure pattern in their minds, and thus a failure identity in their lives. We all know people who say, "Oh, I couldn't", "I'm not clever enough", "I never had a good education", "Home background did not give me the right start." They are expert in *alibi-making*.

Yet how many of us waste valuable time and thought by chewing over the past, immediate or distant, or bothering what others may be thinking about us. In this way we reinforce an unfavourable self-image which is bound to work against us. Negativist use of imagination cannot produce positive results.

Fantasy Thinking

When a person's desires are frustrated by reality, he may retreat into a fantasy world where his thwarted wishes can be satisfied. To create fantasies or day-dreams as a temporary escape from the frustrations of reality is a perfectly normal activity unless it is carried too far so that the individual gives up striving for satisfaction in the real world. Day dreaming or building castles in the air is so pleasant and so free from problems and difficulties that it may offer the day-dreamer even greater satisfaction than he can derive from actual life. And herein lies the danger of day-dreaming. An eminent doctor observes, "Day-dreaming becomes a particular hazard to some one not too successful in real life. It robs such a person

of his zest for true accomplishments."

To sit in an easy chair and imagine oneself wealthy is easier than to get out and work. There is a subtle fascination in using imagination's magic wand to brush away difficulties and to create beautiful party dresses, red convertibles and romantic successes.

Using the imagination is not to be confused with fantasy or building castles in the air. These are visionary and seldom if ever followed by action. Imagination—or creative thinking to use a less ambiguous term—is thinking with a purpose. We fire our thinking into action by the use of such "primers" as: "Couldn't other material be used for this?", "Why not do that some other way?" "What would happen if.....?" For instance Dr Stine asked "What would happen if molecules could be arranged in lines instead of in clusters?" The result was nylon.

There is the story of the wife of a young tycoon who hired her first interior decorator to fancy up her menage. He showed her a whole spectrum of colours. She insisted, she wanted "something quite different, something none of our friends will have". Finally the decorator chocked, "Madam, there is no such colour: It's just a pigment of your imagination." Our lives, too, are often coloured by pigment of the imagination. This is a sort of moon-raking, a form of fantasy thinking.

There is an unpleasant variety of fantasy thinking:

worry. Imagination pertains to the future and its possibilities. Persons inclined to look for the worst can find abundant imaginative material out of which to build unpleasant mental images. This is what constitutes worry. Worry, in its simplest form is nothing but unpleasant speculation. **Worry** is usually a wasteful perversion of mental energy. It should be acknowledged that a reasonable amount of concern for the future helps a man to be cautious. But once this acknowledgement is made, there is nothing more that can be said in justification of worry. "Moreover", says Dr W.W. Dyer, "almost all your fearful thoughts are purely head trips. The disasters you envision will rarely surface. Remember the ancient sage who said, 'I'm an old man, and I've seen many troubles, most of which have never happened.'"

Constructive Values of Imagination

The real values of imagination lie in using it positively and constructively, so developing it that it becomes your ally to help you to achieve successful living.

Imagination is like radar—it reaches out into the unknown. It is by the positive use of imagination that creative activities become possible. An architect does not plan a new building by laying a few bricks and then deciding whether he likes their appearance or not. He calls upon his imagination to develop the structure on the picture screen of his mind. It is the architect's capacity to *see* the finished building, even before the floor plan is drawn; that enables him to design a structure both practical and beautiful.

Another practical use of imagination is in making important decisions, such as the choice of career. Decisions relate to the future courses of

action. Imagination is the means by which a person probes the future. Therefore, the logical way to arrive at a sensible decision is to put the imagination to the stretch in an effort to predict the possible outcome.

Imagination can be harnessed to help you in personal achievement and personality development. The "will" should be reinforced by the use of imagination. For example, suppose you are asked to make a speech and you are nervous at the prospect. It would not be sufficient for you to prepare thoroughly, for your preparation might be sabotaged by panic at the last moment. You must use your imagination positively. Whenever you anticipate the event (and do so deliberately as you fall asleep at night during the week prior to the event) visualize yourself standing poised and confident, holding your audience from the moment you start, and making a very good speech. You will be surprised at the difference that the use of this technique can make in your performance.

This technique can be adapted to all kinds of activities at which you wish to give a creditable performance. Naturally, do not expect the unreasonable. For example, if you are a mediocre tennis player, this practice will not necessarily send you to Wimbledon. It will, however, greatly improve the standard of your play.

In the field of personality development this use of imagination can help you to overcome undesirable habits or traits and to develop desirable ones. If you feel you are too reserved or bad tempered, if you blush or stammer, think of yourself as free from these drawbacks. Stop brooding on past failures. That is an un-profitable use of your mental powers. Instead concentrate your imaginative faculty upon the happy picture of your

self being as you would wish to be, or succeeding in the desired field.

You can supplement this use of the imagination with Coue's famous formula of faith cures: "Every day, in every way, I'm getting better and better." He would recommend his patients to whisper these words 20 times before going to sleep.

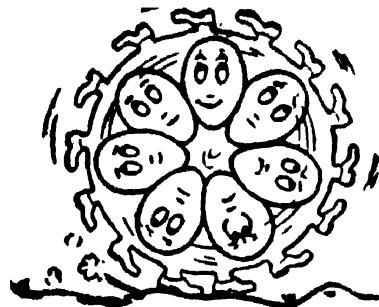
If you feel that you have a poor imagination, don't be discouraged. Experts are unanimous that imagination *can be improved*. Rest assured that you have a creative potential.

King Solomon's saying, "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he", is another way of saying that a man becomes the kind of person he pictures himself to be in his imagination. Reject all negatives. Seek to cultivate a positive imagination which will create in your mind pictures which will show the success you desire. The pictures you create in your conscious mind tend to become the blueprints on which the creative sub-conscious will work. The trick is to be careful that all images you create are positive.

Think only of what you want to happen in your life and never of those things you don't want. If you want to be poised, think of yourself as always calm and balanced. To feel confident, see yourself so in your mind. As Dr David Seabury observes, "We know today that if you make dynamic designs in your mind of how you wish to behave, your will like an invincible current, pours into the patterns you have created and gives you a magnetic vigour for the fulfilment of your desires. The will obeys the thought patterns or mental pictures in your mind and operate as they command."

It is by the wise, positive use of imagination that all creative enterprises are carried forward.

"Devi" in the ditch!



We Indians are classic hypocrites. There is hardly another nation that can beat us at it. We call our women "devi", put them on the high pedestal, worship them in theory but in real life we treat them like poor relations. We burn them, beat them, throw them out of the house for bringing meagre dowry. We do not give them equal status with men. In short, it is customary for us to put the "devi" in ditch.

Our society, barring elitist pockets, is tradition-bound. The so-called high status of women reflects only the status of the fringe of society—barely half a per cent of total woman population of the country. Majority of women *enjoy* low status. In fact, there is no point in labouring the point when most of them have no status at all. If at it exists, it does so in statute books of which women are blissfully unaware or ignorant.

While a lot of ink is spilled over this issue, pious platitudes are repeated, slogans raised, conferences held, seminars arranged which generate a lot of semantic gas, in actual practice nothing is done. Take the recent example of the ghastly incident at Baghpat. How many women organisations or their representatives visited the place? What was their contribution to help the raped woman financially or morally? These elitist organisations, membered by wives of rich businessmen or top layers of bureaucracy, meet in a decorated halls, come with parasols in hands, highly drenched in perfumes and talcumed

bodies, raise some cocophony about the injustice being done to women, eat cake and pakoras, pass a resolution and off they go back to their well protected bungalows. The "devi" remains in the ditch. No one is the sorrier for it.

International year of the woman has not pulled our dear "devi" out of the ditch. She continues to rot in mud and muck. Burning bras, declaring from housetops that they are equal to men will mean nothing. It will fetch no results. Women will never emerge from their iron-cast traditional moulds unless they recognise the enemy. Yes. The enemy. It is two faced: the front is male, the rear is female. It is a curious creature. Here is the elaboration. Her first enemy is the man who will go on speaking endlessly about equality but will never give it. Equality is fought and procured. It is never given.

It is a male dominated society—world in fact. In such a society, the male will hand out only a concession or a favour—never equality. That is the fundamental law of nature. Women, if they continue to depend on men will get nothing but crumbs of favours here and there. Remember. The hand that gives can suddenly close and turn into a fist!

The other side of the curious creature is woman herself. She suffers from a highly poisonous dogma on which she is fed right from her first day. Her destiny is marriage. Her fate is linked with that of her lord, hubby.

Her salvation lies in projecting a devi image in public but she must act a bedroom actress to please the lord, her hubby, to keep a check on his wandering instincts. She accepts this role, plays it to the hilt. In fact, she passes all her life living up to this artificially created image for her.

In other words, it means she is inferior, has no spiritual, intellectual or emotional dimensions to her personality. Her life, her existence is that of an appendage to man. Like the sixth finger on the hand, she is unwanted but suffered. She accepts it and relishes when flattering words are showered on her by the present-day Manus of our society.

We seldom find a woman however culturally, intellectually and emotionally advanced or excelling men who is not sold out on the fiction that she is incomplete without man. She will give her right arm to wear sindoor in her manng, to hang a bunch of keys in the midriff of her sari, have sweet pattering of little feet in the house. Hundreds and thousands of talented women, capable of outshining men, endowed with rare qualities of head and heart have willingly consigned themselves to the matrimonial dustbin, suffered hard living with a third-rate or second-grade husband simply because security is their watchword. What security? Have they ever asked themselves. Real security lies in independence, realising your fullest potential and fulfilling yourself as a human being.

MODEL PARAGRAPHS

Paragraph-writing is one of the compulsory questions in many of the higher-grade competitive examinations. Thoughts in certain well-known quotations are required to be developed into suitable paragraphs. Some examples are given hereunder.

**How many a man has dated
a new era in his life from the
reading of a book.**

(Thoreau, 1854)

Keats was working as an apprentice to an apothecary—surgeon. He had no love for the job, but the kitchen-pot had to be kept boiling. Then one day his friend Clarke gave him a copy of Spenser's *Faerie Queene*. The book awakened in Keats a love of mythology and travellore, casting a spell on him as nothing else had. The poet in him asserted itself and he resolved to dedicate himself to poetry. In the space of a few years he blossomed forth as a great poet, probably one of the greatest in the English language. A poem or a play, a painting or a symphony may metamorphose a man beyond recognition. Gandhi was working as a barrister in South Africa. His sensitive mind revolted against the discriminatory and humiliating treatment meted out to the Indians there. But he was at a loss to find the way to resist it. Thoreau's book *Civil Disobedience* came his way. Here was the weapon Gandhi needed. What was intended for an individual was sought to be employed by a community. Gandhi employed it with success against the Whites in South Africa. He then brought it to India and used it to drive out the British from the country. Gandhi's name has become synonymous with Civil Disobedience or Satyagraha.

**A house is a machine for
living in.**

(Le Corbusier, 1887-1965)

From the primitive cave-dweller to the sophisticated gadget-using citizen of the 20th century is a long, long journey. The cave-dweller lived in perpetual want and dread, while the modern man is an over-lord for whom living is a switch-on-and-switch-off affair. The latter wakes up not to the chirping of the birds or the roaring of a lion but to the chirming of the automatic alarm-clock. His house is a complicated machine which he controls and regulates with his switch-board. He can alter its temperature to suit his needs. His breakfast, his lunch or dinner or supper each repast comes to him at his bidding as if from an Allahdin's lamp. A button is pressed and his rooms are swept clean, spick and span. His clothes are washed and dried by an automatic machine. He need not send an errand-boy. The telephone in the house does every job for him. The kitchen is properly equipped to bake, fry and boil and even to cool and preserve. Everything is done by the machine. The house therefore is a huge mechanism in which the owner or his servant has only to control the switch-board or press the appropriate button to get things done. One might go further. This machine can be shifted bodily from one place to another. Aren't we living in an age of pre-fabrication.

**War will never cease until
babies begin to come into the
world with larger cerebrum and
smaller adrenal glands.**

(Mencken)

When the First World War was being fought the slogan that was raised by the Allies and which caught the imagination of youngmen promised that it was a war to end all wars. The war ended in 1918 and within a few years of the conclusion of Peace Treaty there was talk of war and feverish preparations for it. The armament race began all over Europe and the Allies led the van in the manufacture of arms and ammunition. No wonder another global war came in 1939 and wrought havoc, but without making human beings any wiser. We used to wonder where war lived, what it was that made it so vile. And now we realise that we know where it lives, that it is inside ourselves. Man is pugnacious by instinct. He must be born anew and born different. The average human intelligence is pretty little and that little is kept down by his passions and emotions. A few unscrupulous but clever firebrands influence his adrenal glands thereby rousing his baser instincts. Unless, therefore, human beings become, like Socrates' Ancients, passionless Intelligences, there is no hope for humanity. Wars will go on causing destruction and devastation, opening a vein that bleeds humanity to death.

(Contd. on page 236)

1. Moral Courage

Physical courage is a rare virtue but moral courage is rarer. Physical courage may at times wears a false glitter, appearing as bravado or even desperation. But there is no mistaking moral courage. It is inseparable from sacrifice and spiritual exaltation.

One form of this courage is readiness to own one's mistake. The common run of people seek pretexts or *alibis*. The Indian politician of today is an adept at the game. He pays lip-service to Gandhi but forgets and conveniently so, that Gandhi's greatness lay in his frank avowal of a mistake. The Non-cooperation movement had been launched and was at its peak. It was a non-violent movement, but at Chauri Chaura some violent incidents took place. Gandhi accused himself of an error of judgement and suspended the movement. He was criticised but he stood his ground. He penalised himself by undertaking a fast for self-purification.

The boyhood of some great men reveals that moral courage was the breath of their nostrils. George Washington as a boy displayed this quality. He was given an axe as a prize. He got so much drunk with its performance that he lopped off the tender plants as well as the twigs of the trees in his father's garden. In the evening when the father visited the garden he became furious at the

depredation. Just then George entered, and without a moment's hesitation, confessed his fault and volunteered himself for punishment. His moral courage disarmed the anger of his father.

Young Jawaharlal was less lucky. Finding two fountain-pens on his father's table, he helped himself to one of them. A frantic search was made and the young Jawahar owned up his guilt. He got a beating but felt better for his confession.

Gandhi's moral courage filled every fibre of his being when in South Africa, he was shocked at the discriminatory and humiliating treatment meted out to Indians. The shock became greater when he saw that the victims of the treatment did not protest in the least. Gandhi's sensitive soul would not put up with it and almost single-handed he created a climate of protest. He emboldened these invertebrate persons who gradually learnt how to fight the tyrant. Gandhi made heroes out of clay.

Once again we think of Gandhi's moral courage when he walked the streets of Noakhali preaching non-violence and appealing for communal amity. The air was thick with poison and retaliation. The stoutest heart quaked and shuddered, but Gandhi with a moral courage which was greater when the challenge was greater, trod

the thorns and little by little crushed them.

But there is no knowing when the moral courage may go by default. Peter was the favourite disciple of Christ and was always with him through thick and thin. However when Christ was arrested and hauled up for crucifixion, some woman pointed her finger at Peter and said 'This man was with him (Christ).' Peter flatly denied any association with the Master and thereby saved his skin.

Individual moral courage is the rarest of virtues. But sometimes miracles happen and a whole community displays moral courage of a high order. Probably India alone can provide illustration of this miracle. The Bardoli Satyagraha is a brilliant chapter in the history of our freedom movement. The Collector of Bardoli levied an additional tax on the peasants of this Taluka, probably by way of punishment for the people's participation in the non-co-operation movement. Under the leadership of Sardar Patel the peasants organised themselves for a no-tax campaign. The authorities came down on them with a heavy hand. Their lands were attached and sold for a song. The peasants were put behind the bars. They were starved and belaboured. But Patel had galvanized them in such a way that they bore everything with cheer. They won in the end.

2. India Today—A Photostat

A resident of Chandigarh, fatigued, physically as well as

mentally, by standing in long queues was asked by a press

reporter 'What do you think is wrong with our country?'

Prompt came the reply 'What is right with it?' It sounds like cynicism but the Chandigarh man is not alone. Millions and millions of our countrymen feel like him. Frustration is writ large on their faces. Growing unemployment, sky-rocketing prices, horrendous law-and-order situation, rampant corruption, unrest among students, strikes and lock-outs, with a government that talks big and does little—with all this, the Chandigarh man was speaking the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth.

The rot is no overnight phenomenon. For its genesis we have to go back to the days of Partition. The Mahatma was opposed to it. He next exhorted the top Congressmen not to accept office but to work as watch-dogs. But the lure of office proved irresistible. They plumped for soft-cushioned chairs, with all the pomp and glitter of their paraphernalia. Gandhi came to be forgotten though his portraits decorated the walls. Permits and quotas, the relics of the World War II, were activated and the pot-bellied business-magnates began to rule the roost with ministers rubber-stamping the decisions of these magnates. Their happiness lay in the fact that money poured into party chests with some sprinkling into their own pockets. When a minister exceeded the limits he was quietly asked to quit, lest the name of the party should be tarnished. The interest of the party transcended that of the country.

The political malaise, therefore, has stemmed from the limited vision of our Founding Fathers. If the giants could succumb to the lure of office, what shall we say of the pygmies that we see around us. A humorist has divided them into the haves and the have-nots, and a right-royal battle goes on perennially between them. The

haves must hold on to the chairs they are occupying, by hook or by crook and the have-nots must, with equal zeal, and even ferocity, attempt to topple the lucky haves. They trade charges of corruption against one another and quote chapter and verse to substantiate their allegations. From these exercises one learns the force of the saying, 'Set a thief to catch a thief'.

Political recrimination and vendetta have led to indiscriminate institution of criminal cases against political opponents. Probably ours is the only country in which criminal cases are withdrawn with as much facility as they are instituted. And all this, in spite of a capable and efficient police and incorruptible judiciary. Naturally it has had an undesirable impact on the law-and-order situation in the country. Unsocial elements sneak into the favours of this party or that and in the cool assurance that they enjoy immunity violate every provision of the law of the

land.

Unsocial elements very often include economic offenders. Smugglers, hoarders, black-marketeers and even gun-runners are thriving and holding the country's economy and even peace to ransom. The whole atmosphere has been vitiated and polluted and the root cause is the chicanery of our unscrupulous politicians.

Atrocities on weaker sections of society, crimes against women are increasing by leaps and bounds. Instead of making concerted attempts to stamp out the evils, political parties are trying either to make capital out of them or to blame them on to this political group or that, with the result that the perpetrators carry on their nefarious activities unchecked and unfettered. The recent riots in U.P. might well have been nipped in the bud but for lack of an earnest drive the situation worsened. We have become past masters in side-tracking issues and problems.

MODEL PARAGRAPHS (*Contd. from page 234*)

A policeman goes after vice as law-officer comes back a philosopher.

(*Finley Peter Dunne, 1901*)

Samuel Butler in his *Erewhon* has described a country where the criminal is sent to the hospital rather than the prison. Butler was only contorting the orthodox attitude which believed in punishing the criminal. The best of the criminologists directed his efforts towards identifying the culprit. The detective stories and novels of Conan Doyle are illustrative of this attitude. Today the criminologist is more of a sociologist who has come round the view that crime is a result of social maladies and maladjustments. The criminal must be treated sympathetically. Statistical surveys of prison population

have revealed that quite a few of the convicts are decent citizens who committed the crime either under pressure of economic circumstances or some mental stress or aberration. The slogan of today is Hate the sin, not the sinner and is an acknowledgment of the fact that emphasis has shifted from the punitive to the reformist approach. With the reform of the economic order as in Russia or of the political order as in England the incidence of crime has diminished considerably. Give a man a square meal and a roof to sleep under and ten to one the very thought of crime will be abhorrent to him. The solution to the prevention of crime is not more police or even more efficient equipment but the establishment of a welfare state.

Weather and the heart

The latest in medical science is the discovery of the link between weather and the human heart. If the number of patients suffering from cardio-vascular diseases increases, the experts know it without consulting the weather report that the atmospheric pressure has sharply changed and the air humidity is high.

It has been known for a long time that meteorological changes play a significant role among the various factors which add to the manifestations of the ailment. They give a spurt to the number of hypertensive crisis, infarctions etc. Those suffering from the diseases of the lung, peripheral nervous system and locomotor system have their conditions register a slowdown. In some cases, the crisis created by the sharp change in weather conditions could be drastic and the ill effects unbearable.

Can anything be done to minimize the influence of sharp weather changes, reducing the impact on human health? Intensive as well as extensive research is being carried out on all weather factors which influence the functioning of the human systems. Russian medical experts have been studying the problem for years.

Medical experts know that in the plains the oxygen content of the air is almost a constant factor: about 21 per cent. How is that seemingly healthy people develop various symptoms like weakness, sleepiness and decreased efficiency

signs of oxygen starvation when the atmospheric pressure undergoes a change? There was a time when such conditions were correlated only to the thermal factor which alerted the heat condition of the body. But now we have a big surprise in store for us. Believe it or not. The medical experts say it is the oxygen itself to blame. But they are not talking through their hat! They have reasons for everything. When the atmospheric pressure falls, solar activity increases and the temperature and humidity change. The capacity of oxygen to absorb itself in the blood decreases and so does the oxygen saturation of the cells of the body.

It is sheer romance to know how the experts are moving into the direction. They first establish a medical weather forecasting centre. In this centre work various experts from several disciplines. For example, there are experts in geography, meteorology, climatotherapists and climatopathologists. The special centres get information from various cells and then process it.

It is then that the medical experts get into the picture. They first analyse the reports received from various weather centres, interpret them, calculate the expected changes in the oxygen content of the blood and forecast probable aggravation of the disease. The centre sends this information to the disease prevention and medical treatment establishment. A singularly peculiar feature is that a

medical weather forecast is published in newspapers to warn people of the impending climatic changes. The practice has been started by the USSR.

What results follow from such analysis and interpretation? Interesting. The physicians are in a much better position to draw up recommendations for their patients in advance. Some patients will require to take added quantities of medicine while some others may need reduction in medication. Yet others may have to undergo treatment when there was nothing before. For another category, it could be slowing down of pace and tempo of mental and physical activity.

It is pertinent to ask one question: Does not the medical forecast exercise an adverse influence on health-conscious people easily exposed to suggestions? Statistics have shown that the number of visits to physicians has increased with the appearance of such information but the rate of complications in cardio-vascular diseases has dropped. The Soviet experiment launched in Moscow with one such centre has encouraged the authorities to go ahead with more such centres. The Soviet Union has now six such centres. Before long other countries of the world would follow suit. Let's hope!

FASCINATING FACTS

Happy Birth

A French doctor's claim that immersing new-born babies in warm water makes birth a more pleasant experience and produces happier children is untrue, according to a new study.

A team of scientists and doctors from McMaster University in Ontario, Canada, conducted health and behaviour tests on 28 babies born by the normal method and 28 by the "Leboyer method", named after Francis Leboyer who wrote the 1975 book "Birth Without Violence".

The report says the only difference found was that mothers who underwent the Leboyer method thought their babies' behaviour was affected.

Dr Leboyer urged delivering babies in dim light, immediately placing them on their mothers' abdomens, and then immersing them in warm baths "to ensure that separation is not a shock but a joy."

But the researchers found that half the babies immersed in water reacted with irritable crying. They concluded the method created no apparent risks but also produced no obvious benefits.

New Scanner

Clinical trials in Britain of a new type of medical scanner have produced what are described as unique and hitherto unobtainable views of the inside of the human body.

The new method of scanning by nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) has been under develop-

ment for the past seven years in both Europe and the United States and is said to offer a serious challenge to other scanners using X-ray computerised tomography because it can build up pictures in any plane and does not present radiation dangers to the patient.

A team of scientists from Nottingham University, in the English midlands, recently carried out the first limited clinical trials with NMR on patients with lesions of the brain in order to compare its performance with that of conventional X-ray imaging methods.

Team members, Dr William Moore and Dr Brian Worthington said high-quality NMR pictures had been produced of a section through the head of a 22-year-old woman which showed clearly a suspected brain tumour. With the help of the picture the tumour was successfully removed.

The prototype NMR scanner had also been able to produce a picture of healthy vertebral discs. This was the first time such a picture had been achieved from outside the body because X-rays cannot produce an image of healthy discs and show only the shape of damaged ones.

The Nottingham team says NMR imaging can not only produce cross-sectional pictures, which has not been possible before, but the scanner is silent, has no moving parts and can complete a typical scan in two minutes or less.

A Wine Without Alcohol

A French wine expert claims to have discovered the answer to the overproduction of wine in his country and at the same time to have made an important contribution to overcoming alcoholism.

Professor Henri Margulis says he perfected a method of making a non-alcoholic wine which has all the characteristics of taste and bouquet of an ordinary wine.

The secret, he says, is in knowing exactly when and how to stop the fermentation process just before it reaches a 2 per cent alcohol content. It is a secret he is so far keeping to himself because of what he believes are the considerable commercial benefits to be derived from the drink.

Not only does he believe the drink would be able to command considerable sales in the Arab and Japanese markets but it would also be a great success in America.

From the producers' point of view, Professor Margulis says his process has the advantage of requiring no extra equipment or new investment. From picking the grapes to producing the drink would take only six days. Even though it would sell for only a third of the price of real wine it would still be more profitable to the grower.

Despite its claimed merits, however, the professor admitted when he presented his new drink to the Press in Toulouse: "It will never replace real wine."

Intelligence TEST

1. Re-arrange the jumbled spellings of the following word and name the choice which gives the last letter of the re-arranged word.

SLIDE COS (Reveal)

Choices: (i) D; (ii) O; (iii) E; (iv) S

2. Read the following statements and answer the question at the end.

- (i) Jagmohan can play the violin but not the piano.
- (ii) Jitu can play the piano but not the flute.
- (iii) Jeevan can play the flute but not violin.
- (iv) Hari can play the violin and the flute.

If each of the persons can play two of the three instruments, which one of them may be like Hari?

3. Read the following sentence and say whether it is absurd, sensible or that you do not know. Only write the serial number of the choice.

My watch gives correct time twice in 24 hours.

Choices: (i) Absurd; (ii) Sensible; (iii) Do not know.

4. Supply the missing words in the following sentences:

(i) Stop is to go as smooth is to —

(ii) Husband is to wife as son is to —

(iii) Sorrow is to misfortune as joy is to —

(iv) Foot is to walk as nose is to —

(v) Car is to driver as aeroplane is to —

5. A man starts by scooter at a speed of 30km/hour and after every hour he stops for 10 minutes. If he starts at 9.30 A.M. and has to travel a distance of 110 km, at what time would he reach his destination?

6. Decide which three rows contain the most letters, and place a check next to these rows.

(a) SSSSS SSSSS SSSSSS

(b) AXAXAXA AXAXAXA

(c) PPPPPP PPPPPP

(d) BBBB BBBB BBBB

(e) IIIIII IIIII IIIII

IIIIII

(f) DODODODODODO

DODODODO

(g) LLLLLL LLLL LLLL

LLLLL LLLL LLLL

(h) CIII CIII CIII CIII

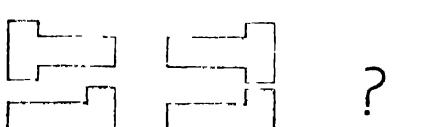
CIII CIII

7. What are the sports below?

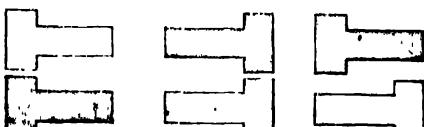
TOBLFOAL; CYOKHE;

LRBAISLID; ARCGCNIRA

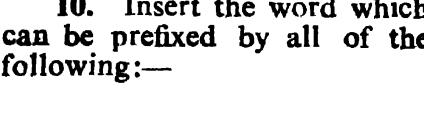
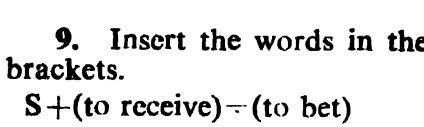
8. Select the correct figure from the six numbered ones.



?



6



AC
DES
RE
AE

(

)

)

11. Find the odd man out.
(a) retired (b) become (c) perverse (d) period (e) back

12. Insert the word that completes the first word and starts second.

COM(....)H

13. Give the meaning of the following Latin phrases.

(a) Sub judice (b) In camera

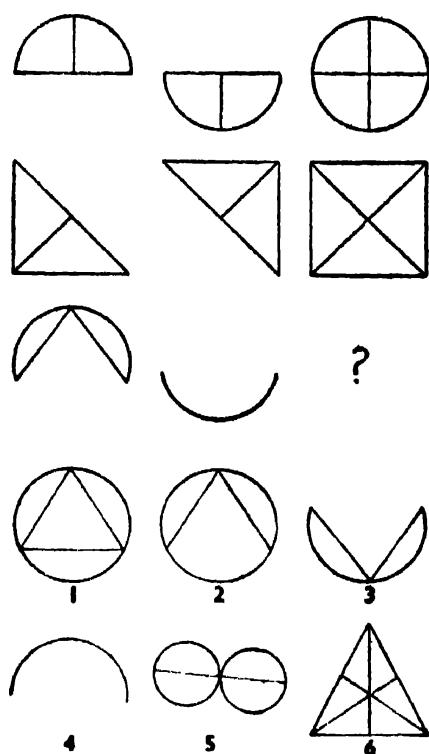
14. Give one word for the following.

A legendary animal with the head and wings of an eagle and the body of a lion.

15. Give one word, ending in "ism", for the following.

Sleep-walking

16. Select the correct figure from the six numbered ones.



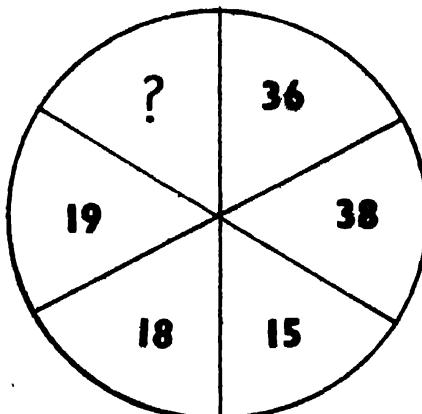
17. Put the correct number in the brackets.

335 (290) 620
735 () 945

18. Complete the series.

15 18 27 54 ?

19. Fill in the blank space with the requisite number.



20. Replace the sign of interrogation with the proper number.

12 (102) 1224
39 (45) ?

21. How many faces are there in a cube?

22. Two fruits are mixed up in each of the sentences below. By using all the letters, separate the fruits.

(a) PENS OR GARAGE
(b) BAN ON NAGA MA
(c) PLEADER MEANSOP

PEG

23. Which is the odd man out?

(a) BECOMES (b) FACE-TIOUS (c) CEMENT (d) ACCORDING (e) ABSTEMIOUS

24. Where was Buddha born?

25. Insert the missing number:

4 8 6
6 2 4
8 6 ?

26. Which number comes next:

6 7 9 13 21 ?

Answers & Explanations

1. (iii).
2. Jagmohan.
3. (ii). (It is a dummy watch).
4. (i) rough (ii) daughter (iii) happiness (iv) smell (v) pilot

5. 1.40 P.M.

6. (e), (g) & (h).

7. Football, Hockey, Billiards, Car-racing.

8. 1. (All shaded hammers turn to the right, white hammers alternate right and left.)

9. take and stake. (S+take =Stake)

10. CENT.

11. back.. (The rest of the words have three vowels each.)

12. FORT.

13. (a) under consideration of a judge. (b) in secret

14. Griffin.

15. Somnambulism.

16. 2. (Figures in column 1 and 2 combined make the figure in column 3.)

17. 215. (Subtract and add 5.)

18. 135. (Add 3, 9, 27 and finally 81.)

19. 30. (The numbers are twice those in the diagonally opposite sections.)

20. 1755. (The number on the back of the brackets is the product of the other two.)

21. Six.

22. (a) ORANGE—GRAPES
(b) MANGO—BANANA
(c) APPLES—POME-GRENADE

23. (d). (ACCORDING: All the other words have either the vowels or the consonants in alphabetic order)

24. Village of Lumbini. (Near Kapilavastu on the Indo-Nepal border.)

25. 7. (Numbers in the third column are half the sum of numbers in the other two columns.)

26. 37. (Double each term and subtract 5 to get the next number.)

General Knowledge Test

Q. What is meant by secularism? What is meant by saying that India is a secular State?

Ans. Secularism means complete detachment from affairs of religion, without being anti-religious, or countenancing any discrimination among citizens on grounds of religion, caste or creed.

That India is a secular State is evident from the fact that it has no official or State religion. It neither patronises nor discriminates against any religion. The Constitution of India guarantees freedom of religion and worship to all citizens. Elections to legislatures in the country are held on the basis of universal franchise and joint electorates. In the matter of appointment to public services, no citizen can be discriminated against on grounds of religion.

Q. What is the minimum age prescribed for election as?—

(i) President of India; (ii) Member of the Lok Sabha; (iii) Member of the Rajya Sabha.

Ans. (i) 35 years; (ii) 25 years; (iii) 30 years.

Q. Who administers the oath of office to the following?—

(i) President of India; (ii) Governor of a State; (iii) Prime Minister of India; (iv) Chief Minister of a State.

Ans. (i) Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of India; (ii) Chief Justice of the State High Court; (iii) President of India; (iv) Governor of the State.

Q. Name any seven languages mentioned in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution of India.

Ans. Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Malayalam. (Other languages mentioned in the Eighth Schedule are: Marathi, Oriya, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Sindhi, Tamil, Telegu and Urdu.)

Q. State how citizenship is acquired in India and how it is terminated.

Ans. The citizenship of India is acquired: (i) by birth or (ii) by descent or (iii) by naturalisation. Except in the case of children born in India to foreign diplomats accredited to this country or to enemy aliens, every person born in India on or after the 26th January, 1950, is a citizen of India by birth.

A person born outside India on or after the 26th of January, 1950, is a citizen of India by descent if his or her father happened to be a citizen of India at the time of his or her birth. Citizenship can be acquired by naturalisation by (i) persons of Indian origin ordinarily living outside India and Pakistan, (ii)

by women married to citizens of India, (iii) by minor children of persons who are citizens of India or (iv) by persons belonging to other countries who fulfil certain conditions laid down in the Citizenship Act of 1955.

Citizenship can be terminated if a person makes a declaration renouncing it and such declaration is registered by prescribed authority. All Indians who voluntarily acquired the citizenship of another country between 26th January, 1950, and 30th December, 1955 (when the Citizenship Act came into force) automatically ceased to be citizens of India.

The Central Government can deprive a naturalised citizen of his citizenship by an order in that behalf if the said citizen appears to be disloyal or is known to have engaged in trade with an enemy or has been sentenced to imprisonment for not less than two years in another country or has been living outside India for a continuous period of seven years.

Q. Name the countries which have been admitted as Members of the U.N.O. since 1971.

Ans. The following countries have been admitted as members of the world body since 1971:

1971—China (People's Republic) replaced Taiwan; Bhutan; Bahrain; Qatar; Oman; United Arab Emirates.

1973—German Democratic Republic (East Germany); Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany); Bahamas.

1974—Bangladesh; Guinea-Bissau; Grenada.

1975—Mozambique; Cape Verde; Sao Tome and Principe; Papua New-Guinea; Comoro Islands; Surinam.

1976—Seychelles; Angola; Western Samoa.

1977—Djibouti; Vietnam.

1978—Solomon Islands; Dominica.

1979—St Lucia (It became the 152nd member of the U.N.O.).

1980—Zimbabwe (formerly Rhodesia) was admitted as the 153rd member of the U.N.O. on August 25.

The U.N. Security Council in February 1980 voted unanimously to recommend the acceptance by the General Assembly of an application for UN membership from *St Vincent and the Grenadines* (a Caribbean nation which had become independent in October 1979).

Q. What is the total number of members of the U.N. Security Council? How many of them are permanent members? What are the powers of the Security Council?

Ans. The Security Council consists of 15 members of whom 5 are permanent members and 10 non-permanent members.

Powers of the U.N. Security Council: (1) It may look into any dispute or threat to peace brought to its attention; (2) It may recommend peaceful solution or, if necessary, may order the use of force to restore peace; (3) It is charged with regulation of armaments and armed force through the Disarmament Commission; (4) It recommends the admission of new members, the

suspension and/or expulsion of old members, and the appointment of the Secretary General; (5) It elects together with the General Assembly, the Judges of the International Court of Justice.

Q. Explain the following:

(i) Surat Congress; (ii) Magna Carta; (iii) The Fall of Constantinople; (iv) The Bastile.

Ans. (i) Surat Congress: The annual session of the Indian National Congress held in 1907 at Surat was marked by a split between the moderates led by Shri Gopal Krishna Gokhale and extremists under the leadership of Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak. The meeting was plunged into confusion and was finally abandoned. The Surat session was greatly disturbed by rowdyism and disorder and police had to intervene to restore order. After the session, the moderates decided to have no truck with the extremist leaders. The Congress organisation remained in the hands of the moderates but it lost its popularity. The extremist leaders—Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Lala Lajpat Rai and Babu Bipin Chander Pal—were the real leading personalities in Indian politics during those years. They commanded a massive following throughout the country.

(ii) Magna Carta: It was the *Charter of Liberties* which King John II was forced to sign in 1215. It meant to put a check on the arbitrary powers of the King. The most important principle that it laid down was that Englishmen should be governed by definite laws and not by the whims or the will of a despotic ruler. Magna Carta was said to be "the foundation-stone of the rights and liberties of the English people."

(iii) The Fall of Constantinople: In the Middle Ages, Constantinople was besieged many times. The first time it fell to a foreign force was in 1204 A.D.

(to the armies of the Fourth Crusade). Later the Turks stormed it in 1453 and captured it from the Greeks.

(iv) The Bastile: was once a fortress on the eastern side of Paris. Later it became a French State prison. On July 14, 1789, it was stormed by a mob of armed Parisians because in the people's minds it was a symbol of despotism. It ushered the French Revolution.

Q. With which Indian ruler/Governor-General do you associate the following?—

(i) the end of the Greek menace to India; (ii) the shifting of the capital to Daulatabad; (iii) Din-i-Ilahi; (iv) Permanent Settlement; (v) Doctrine of Lapse.

Ans. (i) Chandra Gupta Maurya; (ii) Mohammed Tughlaq; (iii) Akbar, the Great; (iv) Lord Cornwallis; (v) Lord Dalhousie.

Q. (i) Where was Mahavira born? (ii) In which tribe was Buddha born? (iii) From where did we get the design of our National Emblem?

Ans. (i) Vaishali in the district of Muzaffarpur. Vaishali was the capital of *Videha* (modern Bihar). (ii) Saka. (iii) From Ashoka's pillar at Sarnath.

Q. From what events do Hindus, Christians and Mohammedans date their eras?

Ans. (i) Victory of king Vikramaditya of Ujjain over the Sakas (58 B.C.); (ii) Birth of Christ; (iii) Hegira or flight from Mecca to Medina of Mohammed, the Prophet.

Q. What do you understand by the following terms:

(i) Ad hoc committee; (ii) Balance of Trade; (iii) Bluestocking; (iv) Bootlegging; (v) Devaluation.

Ans. (i) Ad hoc committee: is a committee constituted for a special purpose.

(ii) Balance of Trade: The difference between the visible exports and visible imports of two countries in trade with each other is called balance of trade. If the difference is positive, the balance of trade (or of payment) is called favourable balance of trade (or of payment).

(iii) Blue-stocking: A term used to describe a learned or a literary woman. The term is derived from a literary club in England whose members were distinguished by their blue stockings.

(iv) Bootlegging: is to deal in prohibited goods, especially wine and liquors.

(v) Devaluation: The currency of a country is primarily used for transactions within the country. It helps to serve as a medium of exchange. But when we try to sell goods abroad or buy goods from abroad, other countries will not accept settlement in terms of our rupee. We have to settle with them either in terms of gold or in terms of some standard international unit. We specify how much a sterling (£) or dollar (\$) is worth in terms of our rupees and settle the exchange value accordingly. Devaluation is a term indicating a definite official downward valuation of a country's currency in terms of its exchange value with other currencies.

Q. Where are the following and what are they associated with?

(i) Dalal Street; (ii) Pentagon; (iii) Writers' Building; (iv) Chequers; (v) Shanti Vana.

Ans. (i) Dalal Street: in Bombay is associated with the stock-exchange market.

(ii) Pentagon: in Washington (U.S.A.) is the building which houses the U.S. Defence headquarters.

(iii) Writers' Building: in Calcutta houses the West Bengal Government Secretariat.

(iv) Chequers: in the Chiltern Hills near Princes Risborough, Bucks, in England, is the country-seat of the Prime Ministers of the United Kingdom.

(v) Shanti Vana: on the bank of the Yamuna off Ring Road in Delhi is the place where Pt Jawaharlal Nehru was cremated in 1964.

Q. Name the official residence of each of the following:

(i) Queen Elizabeth (of the U.K.); (ii) President of India; (iii) the Pope; (iv) President of the U.S.A.; (v) Prime Minister of the U.K.

Ans. (i) Buckingham Palace; (ii) Rashtrapati Bhawan; (iii) Vatican; (iv) White House; (v) 10, Downing Street.

Q. In which Indian States are the following situated?—

(i) Tirupati Temple; (ii) Vivekananda Rock; (iii) Hampi; (iv) Rann of Kutch; (v) The Golden Temple; (vi) The Lake Palace; (vii) Elephanta Caves; (viii) Konarak Temple; (ix) Dal Lake.

Ans. (i) Andhra Pradesh; (ii) Tamil Nadu; (iii) Karnataka; (iv) Gujarat; (v) Punjab; (vi) Rajasthan; (vii) Maharashtra; (viii) Orissa; (ix) Jammu & Kashmir.

Q. What are the following:

(i) Adivasis; (ii) Bedouins; (iii) Dravidians; (iv) Eskimos; (v) Zulus.

Ans. (i) Adivasis: is a nomenclature generally used to describe those people who come of the aboriginal, non-Aryan stock inhabiting since ancient times.

(ii) Bedouins: are nomadic tribesmen inhabiting the deserts in the Arab countries of West Asia.

(iii) Dravidians: are a race of people inhabiting a large part

of the Deccan peninsula in India. It is believed that they originally came from the Mediterranean region. They migrated from there in two streams. One of these settled in Mesopotamia and came to be known as the Sumerians. The second came to settle in India via Baluchistan. They were the fore-runners of the Aryans in the sub-continent and introduced into India a comparatively advanced civilization.

(iv) Eskimos: are a race people inhabiting the extreme northern regions in the U.S.A., Canada and Greenland. They are generally of medium height, have flat faces with high cheek-bones, long heads, and black hair.

(v) Zulus: are a race of negroid people in Natal (South Africa), having close ethnic, linguistic and cultural ties with the Swazis and the Bantus.

Q. Which countries or cities are associated with the following?—

(i) Magyars; (ii) Flemings; (iii) Nippon; (iv) Uncle Sam; (v) John Bull; (vi) Moors; (vii) Danes, and (viii) Muscovites.

Ans. (i) Hungary; (ii) Belgium; (iii) Japan; (iv) U.S.A.; (v) England; (vi) Spain; (vii) Denmark; (viii) Moscow.

Q. Name the following:

(i) Reptile that changes its colour; (ii) Bird that never builds a nest; (iii) Land of the Rising Sun; (iv) Land of the Midnight Sun; (v) Emerald Isle.

Ans. (i) Chameleon; (ii) Cuckoo; (iii) Japan; (iv) Norway; (v) Ireland.

Q. Answer the following questions:

(a) Name any three ethnic races of man and the continents associated with each of them.

(b) List any three physical features in which man differs from the apes.

(Contd. on page 248)

Argumentative Questions ON CURRENT PROBLEMS

- National Consensus : A Mirage ?
- U.S.A. and India
- End of Parliamentary System ?
- A disastrous forecast

National Consensus : A Mirage ?

Q. "The frequent talk of achieving a national consensus in India is a sheer waste of time and a futile exercise since such a consensus is impossible." Give reasons For and Against this view.

Ans. Several political parties in the country occasionally plead for a national consensus, a general agreement on certain basic issues, so as to promote countrywide amity and goodwill and avoid a confrontation. It is generally recognised that as long as the parties in power and those in the opposition work at cross-purposes and do not come to a broad agreement on fundamentals, or at least on certain issues, there would be constant strife, discord and disunity in the country; consequently, progress would be blocked. The need for mutual co-operation among the political parties is being recognised at many levels, but owing to several hurdles and a conflict of approach all the efforts to reach a national consensus have proved abortive.

The aims and policies of the various political parties are different; the bitter rivalries and jealousies make an accord almost impossible. There are no firm principles; instead, there

is the politics of passion and prejudice. Therefore, some people feel that however desirable the objective of a national consensus, the goal is unlikely to be achieved, at least in the foreseeable future.

Arguments For the View

1. The Indian political system is fragile; the democratic paraphernalia has been imposed without the basic conditions of an enlightened electorate having been fulfilled. Democracy postulates the acceptance by the ruling party of certain responsibilities, and by the Opposition of certain duties through the performance of which it can present a viable alternative to the ruling party. But there is no such accord in the country; rather, there are too many discordant elements. Thus there is little chance of a consensus.

2. In this country politics is one of confrontation, not of co-operation. Competition and conflicts among the various political parties are noticed not only during elections but almost throughout. In fact, the main activity of the political parties (with only a few exceptions) seems to be to condemn and pull down the others. Little constructive work is done. There is only talk, manipulation, conspiracy, criticism and toppling

drives. All these seem to have become the daily food of Indian politicians, and they do not even avoid hitting below the belt or indulging in character assassination. What chance is there of achieving a consensus in these circumstances.

3. When Mrs Gandhi was in power until March, 1977, she did not believe in the politics of consensus; she was ruthless, power-obsessed and arrogant; the comfortable majority she commanded in Parliament made her oblivious of urgent national needs. Her will was absolute, her stand uncompromising; her will predominant. When in power, her main aim was to consolidate her position, destroy the Opposition, establish dynastic rule as early as possible and reduce the Opposition to a position of non-existence or totally ineffective existence. How can there be a national consensus when the majority party, the Congress (I), is not very keen on it, except when it is faced with communal riots?

Arguments Against the View

1. There is an all-pervasive social, economic and political crisis in the country for the solution of which a national consensus is necessary. The fact that so far there has only been tall talk about it does not mean

that the effort should be given up. The country does need such an ideal to strive for. But if, acting on counsel of despair, all efforts are given up for achieving such a highly desirable goal, there would be further deterioration and chaos.

2. The lesson of history is that whenever a nation is in the throes of a crisis, a national government, based on a national reconciliation, is desirable and all parties, irrespective of their ideological and other differences, work for attaining such a goal. In this country things have been getting from bad to worse; although the ruling party has a vast, almost unassailable majority and the opposition groups are insignificant, there is drift, inaction, indecision and a general state of uncertainty amounting to what Mrs Gandhi herself used to say about the Janata-Lok Dal Governments—a “period of no government and non-performance.” In such a situation a national consensus is a vital and urgent necessity.

3. Every Indian should place considerations of national security and integrity above everything else; the very spirit of true patriotism and nationalism by which they swear in Mahatma Gandhi's name demands a joint endeavour on constructive lines in the country's interest. Every effort in that direction is worthwhile and should be encouraged.

U.S.A. and India

Q. “The U.S.A. has at last sent enriched uranium for the Tarapur power plant, but India should no longer seek American fuel, nor should the U.S.A. give it to India.” Do you agree with this view? Give reasons For and Against it.

Ans. For many months the Americans hotly debated the question of supplying nuclear fuel supplies to India. While

President Carter favoured such supplies in fulfilment of his country's contractual obligations, there was a strong and influential anti-nuclear lobby which was working constantly to deny such supplies for political and other reasons. The House of Representatives (the lower House of U.S. Congress) rejected the plea for sending such supplies, but the American Senate (by 48 votes to 46) supported President Carter's stand. By a very narrow majority India's application for uranium was thus approved, and a consignment arrived in Bombay on October 7. But the question whether India should continue to depend upon the U.S.A. for nuclear fuel is a vital one, especially because Mr Muskie, the U.S. Secretary of State, made it clear during his campaign to persuade the American legislators and others not to withhold supplies at this crucial stage.

Arguments For the View

1. This time the supplies of U.S. enriched uranium, which are vital to Tarapur, have at last been forthcoming, but the implicit humiliation of India (associated with the begging bowl) and the strong criticism of India's policies caused strains on Indo-U.S. relations and led to some bitterness. To maintain its self-respect it is obviously desirable for India not to seek any further supplies. In fact, there is very little chance of getting further supplies from the U.S.A. beyond the current sanction because Mr Muskie has assured his countrymen that India would have to accept full-scope safeguards regarding nuclear installations for additional entitlements.

2. Since the U.S. has adopted a policy of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons technology around the world, it cannot make an exception in case of this country while seeking

strict enforcement of its conditions on other countries. Must India humiliate herself by begging the U.S.A. for nuclear fuel every time.

3. American scientists feel convinced that the nuclear fuel their country supplies to India can be used for manufacturing nuclear weapons. Only the requisite technology is required, and this technology India is known to possess. Moreover, the Pokharan explosion of 1974 led to a reassessment of the situation in the U.S.A. which suspects Indian intentions. The phrase “peaceful uses and peaceful intentions” are suspect in the U.S.A. which believes that by allowing India to ignore international safeguards on the use of nuclear material, it would be encouraging other countries to go ahead with arms manufacture.

4. Dr Sethna, Chairman of the Indian Atomic Energy Commission stated recently that India will not be stranded if the U.S.A. does not supply enriched uranium because her scientists possess the necessary knowhow to use other alternatives or use the spent fuel (which Tarapur has stored) for running the Tarapur and other power plants.

5. There are also the distinct possibilities of India's getting fuel from the Soviet Union and France. It would be ironic (but a lesson for the U.S.A.) if Delhi turns to Moscow for material which the U.S.A. refuses to supply readily. The U.S.A. evidently does not fully realise the risk of pushing India into the Soviet orbit for nuclear supplies also.

Arguments Against the View

1. The U.S.A. should not unilaterally flout the 1963 agreement with India according to which it was bound to supply enough nuclear fuel for Tarapur. The conditions now sought to be imposed were nowhere

mentioned in the agreement. So the U.S.A. is legally bound to fulfil its part of the contract.

2. The U.S.A. is damaging its own credibility in the eyes of other developing nations by letting down India at a time when both countries need each other amidst the changing balance of power. Their relations would otherwise be strained.

3. The concept that nuclear power and nuclear weapons are closely linked is basically wrong. Many countries use nuclear power such as Britain but do not manufacture nuclear weapons. Surely, India's policy is clear enough. Successive Prime Ministers have asserted that India has no intention whatever to manufacture the Bomb. India has seldom gone back on its word. But, egged on by the Pakistan military rulers, the U.S.A. continually expresses doubts about India's intentions. Pakistan has actually been blackmailing the U.S.A. to get arms and nuclear facilities and to have the supplies denied to India.

4. Self-respect and national honour demand that India should in fact spurn U.S. supplies and thus hit back. India has refused to sign the 1968 Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (N.P.T.) prohibiting nuclear weapon tests. But France and some other countries have also refused to sign. Why should the U.S.A. pick on India?

5. The belief that by permitting nuclear supplies to India the U.S.A. would be encouraging Argentina, Brazil, Turkey, South Korea and South Africa to develop nuclear arsenals is totally baseless. While those countries are either involved in military alliances or are in danger zones, but India's position is unique. This country possesses advanced nuclear technology anyhow, and if she likes she can manufacture nuclear weapons. The very fact that she has not

done so, nor has she any intention to do so, is proof of the fact that the Western suspicions of India's intentions are unwarranted.

End of Parliamentary System ?

Q. "The Parliamentary system, and democracy itself, is, by and large, at an end in India." Do you agree? Give arguments For and Against this view.

Ans. The wholly undemocratic developments that have taken place in this country during the past few years prompt the thought, and convey the impression, that the parliamentary system, far from working satisfactorily, is greatly on the decline and, at this rate, it will soon come to a sorry end. There are challenges and counter-challenges, many cases of physical violence, assaults, throwing of chappals and chairs and other missiles at one another on the floor of legislatures; in short, there is utter lack of decorum. This is hardly the right set-up for a healthy parliamentary system of government. But there is the other side of the picture also. Is not India's Parliament working to schedule, passing laws as and when required, passing the Budget and sanctioning other grants to enable the administration to perform its duties? The State Assemblies are also functioning. There is no actual breakdown, despite all the noise, the walk-outs, angry gesticulations, the fisticuffs and other disturbances. This only shows that the country is passing through a transitional stage, and that a healthier set-up will emerge when there is greater awareness of responsibility among the legislators at the Centre and in the states. The situation does not warrant despair, though it does call for serious thinking among the country's leaders.

Arguments For the View

1. Never has the country's parliamentary system received such blows as it did during the past few months; there is no decorum in our legislatures, no respect for the rules of procedure, no regard for the office of the Speaker. The elaborate paraphernalia of democracy is, for all practical purposes, a sham, a fraud and make-believe, which should be discarded without further delay, in the national interest.

2. The country has held six general elections since the attainment of freedom in 1947; the system of nomination of legislators is virtually at an end, and the country's massive electorate has been exercising its right of franchise every five years, sometimes earlier (in case of mid-term polls), but has the situation improved in any way during the past three decades or so? Not at all. And there is no evidence that things are on the mend. So, when there is no hope of reform, what is the point in continuing the complex structure which merely causes delay at a time when quick decisions and firm actions are urgently needed.

3. If proof was required that India is not fit for the parliamentary system of democracy and that where the majority of the people (about 70 per cent) are illiterate, democracy cannot take firm roots, it is provided by the clashes in Parliament and the State Assemblies. In Britain there is a clear alternative and a viable one: if the ruling party loses its majority, the Opposition steps in automatically after an election, and the changeover is smooth. In India there is utter political confusion; there is no viable and obvious alternative to the ruling party. There is one large, dominating party, and only factions on the other side.

4. The elaborate and complex paraphernalia of the

parliamentary system is a heavy burden on the poor masses of India. The last general election alone cost Rs. 50 crores, and the cost will go up with each poll. This large sum might as well be utilised more fruitfully to help improve the living conditions of the poor, provide them with drinking water facilities and some sort of shelter for the millions of homeless people. Let us not think of governmental luxuries when the people's basic needs have yet to be satisfied. We have adopted wrong priorities and seem to have no sense of proportion. The Assemblies, in any case, meet only when necessary, and Chief Ministers often avoid facing the House.

Arguments Against the View

1. We should not bow to the counsel of despair on any account. If democracy has worked anywhere in the East, it is in India. In other countries of the region there have been military dictatorships, frequent overthrow of Ministries and denial of elementary democratic rights to the people. In India the very fact that elections are held peacefully (by and large) and at regular intervals, is proof that the democratic spirit has taken roots.

2. In the neighbouring country of Pakistan, for instance, the people, who belong to the same stock as the people of India, have seldom seen full-scale and genuine elections and are generally under martial law. The contrast has to be noted. It is wrong to describe India as "unsuited for the parliamentary system and democracy". Is it not a fact that no serious attempt, or in fact no attempt at all, has been made by the Army to take over the administration while elsewhere Army rule and military dictators are much in evidence?

3. All that the country needs now is healthy traditions, acceptance by both the ruling

and the opposition parties that there are definite rules which must be observed. The country has an elaborate, well-drafted Constitution. Other countries have no such thing, and where it does exist, it is just on paper and is overthrown every now and then. With more education will come a greater civic and political sense. Already the illiterate Indian electorate is widely recognised as wise and quite mature. Does it not throw out inefficient rulers? Note the verdict it gave so clearly in March, 1977, and January, 1980. It has proved to be a fairly reliable judge of leaders. This is a good sign of democracy.

A disastrous forecast

Q. "A horrendous famine will sweep across the world in the 1980s and before the end of the century the rich nations will be surrounded by millions of people dying of hunger." Do you accept this view expressed by the world-famous writer C.P. Snow? Give reasons For and Against this view.

Ans. It is obvious that Mr C.P. Snow was needlessly pessimistic about the world food situation. While it is true that the world's food resources have not been keeping pace with the growth of the population and the increasing requirements of the masses, it is also a fact that the forecasts of a global famine are unjustified. Mr Snow made his dismal forecast in 1968. The decade of the eighties is about to start, but there is no sign yet of starvation and famine on the frightening scale he predicted. This is not to deny that there is a world shortage of foodgrains, made worse by the occasional drought, and other disasters which result in ruining crops or waste of accumulated foodgrains. This crisis is also accentuated whenever there is a war, such as the one between Iraq and Iran in which both rivals seem determined to destroy each

other and also each other's precious oil resources. Such vast destruction is sure to worsen the food position in due course because diesel and lubricants are needed by farmers in large quantities, and when petroleum products are in short supply, agricultural production is bound to suffer.

Arguments For the View

1. Mr C.P. Snow's forebodings were not without a basis. Since the F.A.O.'s first Rome Conference held early in the seventies, several warnings have been given to the world that a major food crisis lies ahead and that consequently urgent steps should be planned in good time to avert a disaster. The F.A.O. Director cautioned the world on September 22, 1980, that the curse of starvation was spreading every day and that four to five million people in the Third World were already suffering from hunger and malnutrition.

2. The fact that hunger is fast increasing in the world has been confirmed by another impartial authority - a British economic research group. It warned on October 3 this year that the poor of the Third World would be able to buy only a fraction of their food needs in the 1980s from the West. Unless the developing countries themselves produced more food, many countries would have to face an acute shortage because of the scarce supplies, especially if the 1973 story of a global shortage is repeated.

3. The spectre of famine is also haunting over 150 million Africans, which may be worse than the unhappy experience of 1973-74. Unless the wealthy nations send them generous cereal shipments before the end of 1980, according to U.N. sources. The World Food Organisation is launching an emergency drive to provide food

for the famished Africans. Somalia and Ethiopia are particularly affected because of the millions of refugees taking shelter there.¹⁷ In Asia, millions of "boat people" of Kampuchea (Cambodia) faced starvation last year and food aid had to be rushed for them. But the aid was inadequate, and millions of people died in that region.

4. Drought conditions often prevail in certain parts of India also almost every year. Either food is short, or the hungry, poor people lack the means to buy it even when there are national reserves amounting to 16 to 18 million tonnes. So it is clear that there is disaster ahead and that a massive famine is threatening the Third World, especially the poorer countries.

Arguments Against the View

1. Food shortages do occur, it is true, but it is no use creating a scare and talking of massive famine or of people dying by the million before the eyes of the richer nations. This is, however, no argument in defence of several affluent countries' general indifference towards the terrible plight of the poor. No large-scale disaster has so far occurred, as was feared by Mr C.P. Snow, except in areas where there has been civil strife, a war or other forms of conflict. And conflicts will occur even when there is enough food for the entire world.

2. New food resources are being discovered; science has helped to vastly multiply food production; agriculture has been modernised and mechanised in many countries; effective fertilisers have been widely distributed; irrigation facilities are being rapidly increased and new wonder seeds are being evolved through research. All these have helped the world to increase the total food output through the Green Revolution, and such progress is bound to continue.

So the fears of a world disaster on the food front are largely baseless.

3. Surely, world statesmen, despite all their selfish motives and limited objectives, will not let the 20th century go down in history as the period when man developed the skill to land on the moon and send up scores of satellites but could not feed himself and his fellowmen. Nearly

one-third of the world's scientists are at present engaged in building up sophisticated weapons systems for the world's military-industrial complexes. Their energies need to be diverted to constructive channels. Moreover, the various countries, including India, are laying more and more emphasis on agricultural development in their Budget allocations.

General Knowledge Test

(Contd. from page 243)

(c) Give a brief summary of Charles Darwin's theory of organic evolution.

(d) Explain briefly how plants harness solar energy.

(e) List the hazards of atomic radiation.

Ans. (a) (1) Maoris (original inhabitants of New Zealand); (2) Bedouins (nomadic tribesmen inhabiting the deserts in the Arab countries in West Asia); (3) Zulus (negroid people in Natal, South Africa).

(b) Man stands and walks on two legs, has no bushy hair on the whole body and his structure of the nose and jaw section is quite different from that of apes.

(c) According to the theory of evolution as laid down by Charles Darwin, all existing species, genera and classes of animals and plants have developed from a few simple forms by process of change and selection. The theory explains the mechanism of biological evolution—the life-forms best adapted to their environment will survive and reproduce in the greatest number.

(d) The plants harness solar energy by the process of photosynthesis. Photosynthesis is the process by which green plants harness the energy of sunlight as absorbed by chlorophyll to build organic compounds from carbon dioxide and water. This reaction is often referred to as assimilation or fixation of carbon.

(e) There are a number of hazards of atomic radiation on tissues and organic systems. Atomic radiation causes lethal and sub-lethal changes in the cells. Cells injured by radiation may release toxic substances which are able to inflict further injury. It may cause inflammation, ulceration, loss of fluids, nausea and diarrhoea. It may further cause inhibition of blood formation which leads after some days or weeks to leucopenia i.e., reduction in the number of white cells. This lessens defence against infection, anaemia i.e., reduction in the number of red cells, which results in defective oxygen intake, lassitude, anoxia i.e., reduction of oxygen in tissues; bleeding due to a failure of platelet synthesis and loss of immunity.

Objective-Type Tests

GENERAL STUDIES

The latest pattern of written papers in the competitive examinations for recruitment in Banking, Civil and Defence Services is based on Objective-Type Tests.

Answers are given at the end of this feature. Look to the answers only after you have yourself solved all the questions.

Work as fast and as carefully as you can.

Tick-mark the correct choice.

More than one choice can be correct.

1. This year Nobel Peace Prize has been awarded to:

- (a) a social worker of Brazil
- (b) a sculptor of Argentina
- (c) a human rights advocate of Poland

2. El-Asnam is a town in:

- (a) Bulgaria
- (b) Nigeria
- (c) Algeria

3. The Soviet Union has recently signed a 20-year friendship treaty for strengthening military co-operation with:

- (a) Iraq
- (b) Iran
- (c) Syria
- (d) Jordan

4. Khorramshahr is a major oil port of:

- (a) Iran
- (b) Iraq
- (c) Syria

5. The Indian co-operative movement celebrated on Oct. 1, 1980 its:

- (a) silver jubilee
- (b) platinum jubilee
- (c) golden jubilee

6. The disputed waterway between Iran and Iraq is known as:

(a) Abadan

- (b) Khorramshahr
- (c) Shatt-al-Arab

7. The Glorious Revolution in England in 1688 is so called because it:

- (a) ended the despotic rule of the Stuarts
- (b) was bloodless
- (c) vested sovereignty in the King

8. The Kalinga war in 261 B.C.:

- (a) developed hatred for bloodshed in Ashoka's mind
- (b) developed hatred for Buddhism in Ashoka's mind
- (c) developed hatred for the king of Kalinga in Ashoka's mind

9. The first Battle of Panipat:

- (a) laid the foundation of the British rule in India
- (b) laid the foundation of the Mughal rule in India
- (c) laid the foundation of the Muslim rule in India

10. In the American Civil War (1861-65):

- (a) America defeated England

(b) Northern States of America defeated the Southern States and established a Federal State

(c) George Washington led the campaign for American Independence

11. The name of Ustad Ali Akbar Khan is associated with:

- (a) instrumental music on Sarod
- (b) instrumental music on Sitar
- (c) vocal classical music

12. The Mongols appeared for the first time on the banks of the Indus during the reign of:

- (a) Qutab-ud-Din Aibak
- (b) Altamash
- (c) Razia
- (d) Balban

13. Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre is located in:

- (a) Trombay
- (b) Visakhapatnam
- (c) Trivandrum

14. "APPLE" is the name given to the satellite proposed to be launched by India with:

- (a) French assistance
- (b) Russian assistance
- (c) European assistance

15. Tata Iron and Steel Plant at Jamshedpur is supplied water from:

(a) the Damodar river
 (b) the Ganga
 (c) the Sone
 (d) the Subarnarekha

16. Cotton is chiefly grown in:
 (a) Punjab
 (b) Maharashtra
 (c) Uttar Pradesh
 (d) Himachal Pradesh

17. The largest deposits of uranium in India are found in:
 (a) Kerala
 (b) Rajasthan
 (c) Maharashtra
 (d) Bihar

18. Which statement is wrong:
 (a) Earth moves round the Sun
 (b) Moon moves round the Earth
 (c) Sun moves round the Mars
 (d) Asteroids move round the Sun

19. If a girl weighs 42 kg. in Delhi, on the moon she will weigh about:
 (a) 7 kg.
 (b) 20 kg.
 (c) 32 kg.
 (d) 40 kg.

20. A comet gets its name:
 (a) from its shape
 (b) after the name of the astronomer who discovers it
 (c) after the name of the star close to the vicinity at that time

21. The world space endurance record (longest mission in outer space) set by Russian cosmonauts is of:
 (a) 175 days 36 minutes
 (b) less than that
 (c) more than that

22. Everywhere at the Equator:
 (a) the longitude is zero degrees
 (b) the longitude is ninety degrees

(c) the latitude is ninety degrees
 (d) the longitude and latitude are equal

23. The planet nearest to the sun is:
 (a) Plato
 (b) Venus
 (c) Mercury

24. The hottest planet of the solar system is:
 (a) Mercury
 (b) Venus
 (c) Mars

25. The latitude of South Pole is:
 (a) 70°
 (b) 80°
 (c) 90°

26. The moon is called a satellite of the earth because:
 (a) it is much smaller than the earth
 (b) it has no light of its own
 (c) it revolves round the earth
 (d) it produces tides on the earth

27. What type of climate produces hot wet forests?
 (a) equatorial type
 (b) tropical type
 (c) temperate type

28. The most important influence of the moon on the earth is:
 (a) the light it gives at night
 (b) the gravitational pull it exerts
 (c) the beauty it gives to the night sky
 (d) the effect on ocean tides

29. There is no life on the moon because:
 (a) its surface is barren and rocky
 (b) it has no air and water
 (c) its gravitational force is less than that of the earth
 (d) it is too small as compared to the earth

30. Day and night on the moon is equal to about:
 (a) 14 earth days
 (b) 27 earth days
 (c) 30 earth days

31. Cod is a:
 (a) singing bird
 (b) large snake
 (c) a well-known food fish

32. The largest living bird in the world is:
 (a) Emu
 (b) Albatross
 (c) Ostrich

33. Gnu is:
 (a) a family of lizard
 (b) a familiar fish
 (c) an animal found in East Africa

34. The tallest of the existing animals is:
 (a) Elephant
 (b) Camel
 (c) Giraffe

35. The largest desert in the world is:
 (a) Sahara (Africa)
 (b) Atacama (North Chile)
 (c) Great Arabian

36. Who reached the North Pole first?
 (a) Robert Peary
 (b) Amundsen
 (c) Byrd

37. The first person in the world to reach South Pole was:
 (a) Amundsen
 (b) Robert Peary
 (c) Magellan

38. Izvestia is a daily newspaper of:
 (a) Czechoslovakia
 (b) Switzerland
 (c) U.S.S.R.

39. The Japanese art of flower arrangement is known as:
 (a) Ikebana
 (b) Sōyōnara
 (c) Chrysanthana

40. Hottentots is a race in:
 (a) Australia
 (b) Saudi Arabia
 (c) South-West Africa

(Contd. on page 262)

Objective-Type Tests

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Look to the answers at the end only after you have yourself solved all the questions.

Work as fast and as carefully as you can.

Q. I. Indicate by its number the part of each sentence where a mistake occurs.

(a) If we are expecting thirty guests (1) we had better provided for forty; (2) it is better to err on the right side (3).

(b) You can take it from me that the person (1) who will get the position is the one (2) whose views coincide with the committee (3).

(c) Some people argue that to educate (1) the working classes would only lead to them (2) getting above themselves (3).

(d) Two well-known firms of drug manufacturers (1) are co-operating with one another (2) in the attempt to find a cure for the common cold (3).

(e) As he lost his foot on the steps (1) he grabbed hold of a bookshelf (2) and brought all the books down after him (3).

(f) I cannot find his letter for the moment (1) but as soon as it comes to hand (2) I will let you see it (3).

(g) It was at the tip of my tongue (1) to call him a liar, but I stopped myself (2) just in time and averted an awkward situation (3).

(h) In the thirties it was an act of sacrifice (1) to go to the prison, but today (2) we look upon it as an investment (3).

(i) After having passed the B.A. examination (1) he provid-

ed me with a job in his office (2) and even arranged for my board and lodging (3).

(j) Upto the time the last vote was recorded (1) it was difficult to predict (2) whether victory lay with Conservatives or Liberals (3).

(k) Why should you imagine (1) as if there is an insurmountable difference (2) between the two groups? (3).

(l) Financial help came from several quarters, (1) but foolish as I was, (2) I persisted in going it alone (3).

Q. II. Taking a hint from its synonym given in brackets, complete each word.

(a) Hitler sought to annihilate resistance movements throughout Europe. (liquidate).

(b) He was able to baffle a number of honest citizens before he was nabbed by the police. (deceive).

(c) From that day he dedicated his life to the service of the poor. (dedicated).

(d) The depredations of the cyclone can still be seen, more than two years after the calamity. (ruin).

(e) The injection eased the excruciating pain, though only for a few hours. (unbearable).

(f) My grandfather used to fulminate against the ways of the youth of his day. (thunder).

(g) High blood pressure can be the result of gluttony. (excessive eating).

(h) Do not tell the children such horridous stories; these may affect their nerves. (frightful).

(i) His father kept a living itinerary of the trip which makes an interesting reading. (record).

(j) During the storm the crew jettisoned much of the ship's cargo. (discarded).

Q. III. Pick out the appropriate alternative.

A. The sleeping sentry received a strong — from his commanding officer.

- (a) censure
- (b) censor
- (c) censor

B. It was midnight and we were in the — of the forest.

- (a) centre
- (b) middle
- (c) midst

C. The moment I switched off the light, — the screech of an owl.

- (a) when I heard
- (b) I heard
- (c) than I heard

D. What he said was very brief, but it —.

- (a) hit the nail right on the head
- (b) hit the right nail on the head

(c) hit the nail on the head

E. The design she made was highly ____.

- (a) artful
- (b) artificial
- (c) artistic

Q. IV. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given at the end.

A leader's mission is to direct the actions of others and it is imperative for him to know to what goal he intends to lead them. The most important quality for him to possess is will-power; he must know how to make decisions, and to take the responsibility for them. Naturally before making a decision, he must inform himself thoroughly and weigh all the circumstances. When he has decided and given his command, he must stick to his guns unless some unexpected and unsurmounted obstacle is encountered. Nothing is so discouraging to subordinates as a chief who hesitates. "Firmness", said Napoleon "prevails in all things".

In order to make decisions, a leader must have moral courage. These decisions are frequently more painful to him. At the beginning of the War of 1914, Foffre was obliged to remove a good many generals who were his personal friends. Occasionally the sacrifice of a few men is required for the safety of the many. A leader can, and often must, be severe; he has no right to be malevolent, or cruel or vindictive. He must despise idle gossip and control it if possible.

He must have round him a body of devoted assistants who can deal with the minor decisions for him. He must not let trees hide the wood. For the execution of orders, he has his technicians whom he has chosen and in whom he has confidence; allows them to act freely and is content to verify, by frequent checking, the exacti-

tude of the information. "And what do you do?" Lyantey was asked one day. "I am the technician of the general ideas", he replied. A leader with experience behind him knows that it is not possible to follow in detail the activity of each one of his subordinates. Especially in matters of economics, he confines himself to pointing out certain general trends and to insisting that private interest should have respect for public interest; he does not try to substitute a plan for the inevitable results of the desires of millions. The traffic officer regulates the flow of traffic; he does not assign a particular course to each vehicle.

The chief must inspire the respect of his technicians; if he cannot, there will be doubts and conspiracies. There is only one way of inspiring respect and that is to be worthy of it. A great leader is a great personage; he is unbiased and without self-interest. Baldwin and Poincare were perhaps lacking in brilliancy and Baldwin made a point of not having it; but they were both men whose scrupulous financial honesty could not be questioned. Baldwin bequeathed a part of his fortune to the nation; Poincare would never make use of Government servants for his personal needs. Both had the straightforward qualities that a manufacturer requires of a factory manager, or a husband for his daughter. These elementary virtues made them powerful. One could approve or disapprove of their politics, but even their opponents did not refuse them the right to govern. A dictator gains power through being frugal and incorruptible.

(Andre Maurois)

q. 1. Tick the appropriate title to the passage:

- (a) Moral Courage of a Dictator
- (b) A Dictator's relations with his Lieutenants

(c) Qualities of a Good Leader

q. 2. What do the following expressions mean?

- (a) Must stick to his guns
- (b) Must not let trees hide the wood
- (c) Technician of the general ideas

q. 3. Name the most important virtue of a leader:

- (a) spirit of self-sacrifice
- (b) moral courage
- (c) strictness
- (d) will-power
- (e) honesty

q. 4. Five persons and five qualities have been referred to in the passage. From the two tables given below, match the person with the quality.

(a) Baldwin	1. Honesty
(b) Foffre	2. Policy-making
(c) Lyantey	3. Firmness
(d) Napoleon	4. Moral courage
(e) Poincare	5. Self-sacrifice

q. 5. The key-sentence in the passage is:

(a) A dictator gains power through being frugal and incorruptible.

(b) In order to make decisions a leader must have moral courage.

(c) A leader's mission is to direct the actions of others.

q. 6. Identify the words in the passage whose antonyms are given below.

- (a) benevolent
- (b) crooked
- (c) forgiving
- (d) frequently
- (e) lavish

Q. V. Complete the following sentences using the words at the head of the exercise. Each word is to be used once only.

haul, lug, tow, tug, wrench.

(a) The thieves, unable to open the safe, had — it from its fixtures.

(b) It was sheer fun watching the visitors — heavy suitcases.

(c) My car broke down and I had considerable difficulty in — it to the nearest garage.

(d) The fishermen had taken such a huge catch that they had to seek the assistance of some sailors to — the nets aboard.

(e) He so hard at the window sash that it broke, and the window came crashing down.

Q. VI. In each of the following sentences choose the most suitable of the synonyms provided:

(a) The man who ridicules sincerity is a (1. misogynist 2. cynic 3. misanthrope 4. pessimist) and must be carefully distinguished from the (1. misogynist 2. cynic 3. misanthrope 4. pessimist) who is simply a woman-hater.

(b) The Head-cashier (1. embezzled 2. purloined 3. stole 4. looted) the bank's funds and (1. decamped 2. fled 3. absconded 4. skipped).

(c) He (1. removes 2. eliminates 3. avoids) jargon from his prose and writes (1. concisely 2. tersely 3. pithily).

(d) If he (1. breaches 2. breaks 3. violates) the law, he is (1. liable 2. exposed 3. prone) to punishment.

(e) His lively puns merely attest to his (1. intelligence 2. wit 3. brilliance 4. alertness) but in no way prove his (1. intelligence 2. wit 3. brilliance 4. alertness).

ANSWERS

(Question I)

(a) 2 (we had better provide)
(b) 3 (coincide with those of the committee)

(c) 2 (lead to their getting)
(d) 2 (co-operating with each other)

(e) 1 (As he lost his foothold)
(f) 1 (at the moment)
(g) 1 (on the tip of my tongue)

(h) 2 (to go to prison)

(i) 1 (After I had passed)
(j) 3 (victory lay with Conservatives or with Liberals)

(k) 2 (that there is)
(l) 3 (insisted on going it alone)

(Question II)

(a) annihilate
(b) bamboozle
(c) consecrated
(d) depredations
(e) excruciating
(f) fulminate
(g) gluttony
(h) horrendous
(i) itinerary
(j) jettisoned

(Question III)

A. (a) B. (b)
C. (b) D. (c)
E. (c)

(Question IV)

q. 1. (c)
q. 2. (a) He must adhere to his decision.
(b) Must not get so much lost in details that the true picture or real policy is neglected.
(c) The leader is the policy-maker, the creator of the general picture.

q. 3. (d)
q. 4. (a) 5
(b) 4
(c) 2
(d) 3
(e) 1

q. 5. (c)
q. 6. (a) malevolent
(b) straightforward
(c) vindictive
(d) occasionally
(e) frugal

(Question V)

(a) wracked (b) lugging
(c) towing (d) haul
(e) tugged

(Question VI)

(a) 2, 1 (b) 1, 3
(c) 2, 1 (d) 3, 1
(e) 2, 1

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Objective-Type Tests

EVERYDAY SCIENCE

Look to the answers at the end only after you have yourself solved all the questions.

Work as fast and as carefully as you can.

Tick-mark the correct answer out of the choices given.

1. All atoms of hydrogen have:

- (a) 1 proton
- (b) 2 electrons
- (c) 3 neutrons
- (d) no neutrons

2. The diameter of the electron is believed to be about:

- (a) 0.6 A°
- (b) 10^{-10} A°
- (c) 10^{-24} A°
- (d) 10^{-4} A°

3. Magnalium is an alloy of:

- (a) Aluminium, magnesium
- (b) Magnesium, tin
- (c) Aluminium, zinc
- (d) Manganese, magnesium

4. Artificial rain is produced by seeding clouds with:

- (a) potassium iodide
- (b) sodium chloride
- (c) silver iodide
- (d) copper sulphate

5. India has the world's largest deposits of thorium in the form of:

- (a) rutile
- (b) lignite
- (c) magnesite
- (d) monazite

6. To produce mechanical waves, we need a source producing a disturbance and a(n):

- (a) vacuum
- (b) electromagnetic field

- (c) elastic medium
- (d) inelastic medium

7. Virtual images are always:

- (a) larger than the object
- (b) smaller than the object
- (c) erect
- (d) capable of being projected on a screen

8. In uniform circular motion:

- (a) the speed remains constant
- (b) the velocity remains constant
- (c) both speed and velocity remain constant
- (d) the axis may change direction

9. The relative amount of distortion produced in a body as the result of an application of force is the:

- (a) stress
- (b) strain
- (c) tension
- (d) elasticity

10. As a ray of light enters the surface of water from the air:

- (a) it is always bent
- (b) it is never bent
- (c) its speed is decreased
- (d) its speed is increased

11. In paramecia, digestion goes on in the:

- (a) cytoplasm
- (b) contractile vacuoles

- (c) food vacuoles
- (d) oral grooves

12. An embryo plant with stored food is found in the:

- (a) anther
- (b) ovule
- (c) seed
- (d) stigma

13. One-celled plants with chlorophyll are called:

- (a) algae
- (b) fungi
- (c) bacteria
- (d) protozoa

14. The response of plants and simple animals to stimuli in the environment are called:

- (a) conditioned reflexes
- (b) simple reflexes
- (c) instincts
- (d) tropisms

15. Which structures in plant cells are most active during photosynthesis?

- (a) cell walls
- (b) chloroplasts
- (c) guard cells
- (d) vacuoles

16. Most antibiotics have been isolated from organisms that live in:

- (a) water
- (b) air
- (c) soil
- (d) animals

17. Which mineral is absorbed from the blood stream primarily by the thyroid gland:

- (a) calcium
- (b) iron
- (c) potassium
- (d) iodine

18. A person who is known as the universal recipient has which type of blood?

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) AB
- (d) O

19. The sulpha drugs are most often used to combat infections caused by:

- (a) bacteria
- (b) insects
- (c) viruses
- (d) worms

20. *Lipase* belongs to a class of substances known as:

- (a) enzymes
- (b) excretions
- (c) hormones
- (d) vitamins

21. The light from a comet is:

- (a) from the head and tail of the comet
- (b) from the tail of the comet
- (c) from the head of the comet
- (d) never visible to the eye

22. A year measured by reference points among the stars is called:

- (a) a calendar year
- (b) an arctic year
- (c) a tropical year
- (d) a sidereal year

23. The difference between mean solar time and apparent solar time is never greater than:

- (a) 4 minutes
- (b) 8 minutes
- (c) 12 minutes
- (d) 16 minutes

24. One reason for establishment of the International Date Line was to keep one location from having:

- (a) two dates at one time
- (b) two times of day
- (c) too long a day
- (d) too short a day

25. To produce a total eclipse of the moon:

- (a) the earth must pass through the moon's umbra
- (b) the moon must pass through the earth's umbra
- (c) the moon must be at apogee
- (d) the moon must be at perigee

Increases (I); Decreases (D); Remains the same (RS)

26. When a body is weighed in vacuum, its weight compared to its weight in air—.

27. A ship floats in the sea-water. Its mass compared to the mass of water displaced—.

28. A beaker containing water is in equilibrium on the pan of a balance. If you put your finger into the water, its weight—.

29. A piece of ice is floating on water in a beaker. When it melts completely, the level of water—.

30. If a glass sheet is placed between two charged bodies, the force between them—.

Explain

31. A glass bulb is balanced by a brass weight in a sensitive beam balance. State what will happen when the balance is covered by a bell jar which is then evacuated. Explain.

32. Why does the moon have such a large temperature range?

33. Why can't everyone see a total eclipse of the sun?

34. Why do the spring tides occur at full moon?

35. Why do we have leap years in the century years only when they are evenly divisible by 400?

36. True-False Tests

Directions: In the following statements, the term in italics makes the statement incor-

rect. For each incorrect statement write the term that must be substituted for the italicized term to make the statement correct.

(a) The intensity of illumination varies *inversely* as the candle-power of the source.

(b) As a lead storage cell is charged, the density of the electrolyte *decreases*.

(c) Electrical energy is purchased in *kilowatts*.

(d) As a battery discharges, *heat* energy is changed to electrical energy.

(e) A fine tungsten wire has a *smaller* electrical resistance than a thick tungsten wire of the same length.

Fill in the blanks

37. Suggest the word or words required to complete each of the following statements.

(a) The species number of chromosomes is restored to the new individual at the time of

(b) Plants and animals living in any natural area form an interrelated group called a(n) _____.

(c) In a green plant, gases pass in and out of the leaves through openings called _____.

(d) The growth of a plant toward or away from light is brought about by the hormones called _____.

(e) Corn is usually pollinated by _____.

Test your knowledge

38. An image is said to be 1 if light rays coming from the object actually intersect or strike a screen at the point where the image is formed. The image formed by the pinhole camera is a 2 image. Real images can also be produced by 3 mirrors and 4 lens. Real images are always 5 and can be cast upon a 6. The image produced by a plane mirror is said to be a 7 image.

8 mirrors and 9 lenses always produce virtual images. 10 mirrors and 11 lenses can produce either real or virtual images. A 12 image is produced if the object is closer to the mirror or lens than a distance equal to its 13.

Scientific Abbreviations and Vocabulary

39. (a) Rendezvous (b)
Docking (c) Perihelion (d)
STADAN (e) Ionosphere (f)
Aphelion.

ANSWERS

1. (a)	2. (b)
3. (a)	4. (c)
5. (d)	6. (c)
7. (c)	8. (a)
9. (b)	10. (c)
11. (c)	12. (c)
13. (a)	14. (d)
15. (b)	16. (c)
17. (d)	18. (c)
19. (a)	20. (a)
21. (a)	22. (d)
23. (d)	24. (a)
25. (b)	26. I
27. RS	28. I
29. RS	30. D

31. A body weighs more in vacuum than in air due to the absence of upthrust. The bulb will now weigh more and hence the pan containing the glass bulb goes down.

32. The slow rotation of the moon allows considerable time for the surface to heat and cool. The absence of an atmosphere accounts for the faster heating and cooling.

33. To see a total eclipse of the sun a person must be in the umbra of the moon. The moon's umbra never casts a large shadow on the earth and only people in this area will be able to see a total eclipse. Others, in the penumbra, will see a partial eclipse.

34. At full moon, the sun, earth, and moon are all in a straight line and act together in the build up of spring tides.

35. The addition of an extra day every 4 years (leap

year) would put about 3/4 of a day more than what was needed in the calendar every 100 years. Therefore, 3 out of 4 century-years are not leap years. The 1/4 of a day that the calendar is short each century is brought back into line with the seasons by the addition of a leap year in century years divisible by 400.

36. (a) directly
(b) increases
(c) kilowatt-hours
(d) chemical
(e) larger

37. (a) fertilisation
(b) community
(c) stomata
(d) auxins
(e) wind

38. 1. real
2. real
3. concave
4. convex
5. inverted
6. screen
7. virtual
8. convex
9. concave
10. concave
11. convex
12. virtual
13. focal length

39. (a) The meeting of two spacecraft in space.

(b) The mechanical joining or linking of the spacecraft.

(c) Distance of closest approach of a planet to the sun, e.g., it occurs on January 1 for the earth.

(d) Space Tracking And Data Acquisition Network.

(e) Spherical shell or shells surrounding the Earth rich in ions, often effective as reflectors of electromagnetic radiation.

(f) Maximum distance of planet from sun, occurring for Earth about July 1.

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The Competition Master

W SPORTS

ARCHERY

National Junior Championships: Debi Prakash Dass of Bengal and Rashmi Misra of Delhi were declared the best archers among boys and girls respectively in the National Junior and Sub-Junior Archery Championships which concluded at Sirsa on September 16.

Delhi archers claimed three of the four team championships. They won the titles in the sub-junior boys' and girls' and junior girls' sections. Bengal carried away the junior boys' crown.

BADMINTON

Masters Tournament: Liem Swie King of Indonesia caused the biggest upset in the Masters Badminton Tournament at the Royal Albert Hall in London on September 27. Displaying remarkable courtcraft and smashing with precision, he whipped compatriot Rudy Hartono, the world champion, in straight games by 15-11, 15-3.

True to expectations, Lene Koppen of Denmark retained the women's crown defeating Yoshika Yonekura of Japan in a thrill-packed final by 9-12, 11-5, 11-8.

India's Prakash Padukone, the defending champion and winner of this year's All-England title, went down to Swedish veteran Ature Johnsson by 15-11, 9-15, 11-15 on September 24.

Sanjay Gandhi International Tournament: Prakash Padukone, the All-England Open and Commonwealth champion, won the men's singles title of the

Sanjay Gandhi International Badminton Tournament at Bombay on October 8 when he scored a smashing win over England No. 2 Kevin Jolly by 15-8, 15-0.

Top-seeded Karen Bridge of England carried away the women's title defeating compatriot Sally Leadbeater by 12-10, 4-11, 12-9.

BOXING

Ali Beaten: Larry Holmes, the World Boxing Council heavyweight champion, retained his title for the eighth time when he outpunched the former king of the ring, Muhammed Ali, in a bout at Las Vegas on October 2. The 15-round fight ended when Ali's trainer, Mr Angelo Dundee, refused to let him go out for the 11th round. Technically, the bout will go into record books as an 11th round knockout.

CRICKET

Gavaskar to lead India: Sunil Manohar Gavaskar, Bombay and India opening batsman, will lead the country in the forthcoming tour of Australia and New Zealand. In a unanimous decision, the newly-reconstituted national selection committee named him captain at Bombay on October 11.

After leading India to victory in the fifth Test against Pakistan at Madras in January last and assuring that his team had won the rubber, he stepped down from captaincy "in order to give his successor some experience of leading the country in Tests." Another version was that Gavaskar was disinclined to face the possibility of hostile

demonstration in the West Indies for having said some harsh things about the crowds of that country in his book *SUNNY DAYS*. The tour of West Indies, however, did not materialise.

When he relinquished the captaincy, he had led India in three home series (against West Indies, Australia and Pakistan) to victory. In 1976, deputising for Bishan Singh Bedi in the opening Test of the tour of New Zealand, he registered a win too.

New President: Mr S.K. Wankhade was elected President of the Board of Control for Cricket in India at its annual general meeting at Bangalore on September 27. He took over from Mr M. Chinnaswamy. Mr A.W. Kanmadikar became the new Secretary replacing Mr Ghulam Ahmed.

Deodhar Trophy: South Zone regained the limited overs Deodhar Cricket Trophy when they defeated West Zone, the holders, by 86 runs at Madras on September 10. This was the fourth time that South Zone had won this trophy.

SCORES:

South Zone: 275 for five (50 overs).

West Zone: 189 for seven (50 overs).

Wills Trophy Tournament: The limited overs Wills Trophy Cricket Tournament had a thrilling end at New Delhi on October 5, when Kapil Dev-led Wills XI snatched a dramatic victory over Cricket Control Board XI with three balls to spare. Set a target of 217 to win, the sponsors' team accomplished the task after a hectic struggle during which they lost seven wickets.

Ashok Malhotra, with an unbeaten 69, was adjudged the "man of the match". When his team needed five runs to win and only three balls were left for the end of the match, he hit a glori-

ous six and thus steered his team to victory.

Captains: Kapil Dev (Wills XI), Brijesh Patel deputised for injured skipper G.R. Vishwanath (Cricket Control Board XI).

SCORES:

Cricket Control Board XI: 216 for eight (50 overs).

Wills XI: 218 for seven (49.3 overs).

CYCLING

International Meet: India will host an International Pentangular Cycling Meet in November, according to a statement made at Patiala on September 18 by Mr J.S. Grewal, Secretary-General of the Cycling Federation of India. Besides India, the other participants will be Pakistan, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh.

FOOTBALL

Sanjay Gold Cup Shared: Ambala Heroes covered themselves with glory when they held Calcutta's famous Kalighat Club to a goalless draw in the final of the first Sanjay Gandhi Memorial Gold Cup Football Tournament at New Delhi on October 2. No extra time was played and the teams were declared joint winners. The spin of coin favoured the Calcutta team who will keep the trophy for the first six months.

No I.F.A. Shield Tournament: The Indian Football Association decided at Calcutta on October 1 to finally abandon the incomplete 1980 Calcutta Senior Division Football League. It was also decided not to hold this year's I.F.A. Shield Tournament, one of the oldest competitions of its kind which started in 1893.

These decisions were taken as a sequel to the unfortunate incidents during the Mohun Bagan-East Bengal league match

on August 16 which took a toll of 16 lives.

Gorkha Gold Cup: Border Security Force, Jullundur, last year's runners-up, lifted the Brigade of Gorkha Football Gold Cup with a 1-0 win over J.C.T. Mills, Phagwara, at Darjeeling on September 28.

Rules Amended: Two important amendments in rules have been made by the International Wrestling Federation (FILA), according to an official announcement in Delhi on September 22. The new rules, which will be enforced in all wrestling competitions in the country, are:

(a) The time of a bout has been reduced from nine to six minutes (two rounds of three minutes each) with an interval of one minute.

(b) Passivity, which so far was given caution point, will now be counted as a penalty point.

GOLF

Wills Open Championship: Twenty-six-year-old Noni of Calcutta won the second Wills Open Golf Championship with a gross four-round score of 289 at Madras on September 18. Philip Pilling of Bombay finished second with a card of 294.

The amateurs' title was claimed by Dilip Thomas of Madras with a tally of 307. B. Randhawa of Calcutta became the runner-up with 310.

HOCKEY

Junior National Championship: Uttar Pradesh became the new junior National hockey champions with a superb one goal to nil victory over Combined Universities in the final played at Jabalpur on Oct. 14.

Sanjay Gandhi Memorial Tournament: Indian Airlines and Northern Railway were

declared joint winners of the first Sanjay Gandhi Memorial Hockey Tournament which concluded at New Delhi on September 13. Each team scored two goals in the final.

Asian Cup: The International Hockey Federation (F.I.H.) had accorded its approval for the Asian Cup Hockey Tournament to promote the game in the region. Announcing this at Lahore on September 13, Col A.I.S. Dara, Vice-President of the F.I.H., said the preliminary rounds of the competition would be held in November and December at Colombo and Singapore and the final round would take place at Lahore towards the end of February next year.

Gurmit Memorial Tournament: In an all-Jullundur final, Punjab Police won the 10th All-India Gurmit Memorial Hockey Tournament defeating Army Supply Corps by one goal to nil at Chandigarh on October 5.

TENNIS

Davis Cup: Italy will meet Czechoslovakia in the final of the 1980 Davis Cup Tennis Tournament.

In the penultimate round, Italy defeated Australia by three matches to two at Rome on September 20. On the same day, Czechoslovakia upset Argentina 3-2 in the second semi-final at Buenos Aires.

VOLLEYBALL

Soviet Union Win Test Series: The Dynamo Club of the Soviet Union wound up their tour of India when in the sixth and final Test at Ludhiana on October 9 they won by 7-15, 10-15, 15-10, 15-13, 15-11.

The visitors thus clinched the series by four matches to two.

Current General Knowledge

Awards
Books
Persons
Places
Planning
Projects
Space Research

AWARDS

Nobel Prizes, 1980

Peace: Adolfo Pérez Esquivel of Argentina for "devoting his life to the struggle for human rights since 1974". 48-year-old Mr Esquivel is a sculptor, architect and human rights advocate.

(The Nobel Peace Prize is one of five established in the will of the Swede, Alfred Nobel, the inventor of dynamite, to honour humanitarian works).

Literature: Czeslaw Milosz, an exiled Polish writer. 69-year-old Mr Milosz, born in Lithuania, has been living in exile in the U.S.A. since 1960.

Physics: shared equally by Professor James W. Cronin of Chicago University and Professor Val L. Fitch of Princeton University "for the discovery of violations of fundamental symmetry principles in the decay of neutral K-mesons."

Chemistry: shared by two Americans and one Briton "for biochemical studies and nucleic acids." Professor Paul Berg of Stanford University in California, received one half of the \$ 212,000 prize. The other half went jointly to Harvard professor, Walter Gilbert and British professor Frederick Sanger of Cambridge University.

Prof Sanger won the Nobel Prize for the second time. He previously won it in 1958.

Medicine: shared equally by three men: Prof Baruj Benacerraf (of the U.S.A.), Prof Jean d'Ausset (of France), and Mr

George Snell (of the U.S.A.) "for their discoveries about genetically-determined cell surface structures that regulate immunological reactions."

Economics: Prof Lawrence Klein of the University of Pennsylvania (U.S.A.) for "the creation of economic models and their application to the analysis of economic fluctuations and economic policies."

The prize this year is worth a record 8,80,000 kronor (\$ 2,12,000).

Marconi Prize

Prof Yash Pal, Director of the Indian Government's Space Application Centre, has been honoured with a \$ 25,000 award—the sixth Marconi International Fellowship—in Sydney.

The fellowship was founded in 1974 by a daughter of Italian radio pioneer Guglielmo Marconi.

Prof Yash Pal was honoured for his work in adapting satellite television for the instructional and educational benefit of villagers in northern India.

Hari Om Trust Awards

The University Grants Commission has named six scientists for its prestigious Hari Om Trust Awards of Rs. 10,000 each:

Sir C.V. Raman Award: Prof Krishanji of Allahabad University for experimental research in physical sciences.

Dr Homi J. Bhabha Award: shared jointly by Prof R. Narasimhan of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bom-

bay, and Prof R. Narasimhan of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore "for research in applied sciences".

Dr Meghnad Saha Award: Prof K. Ramachandra of the TIFR, Bombay "for research in theoretical sciences."

Sir Jagdish Chandra Bose Award: shared jointly by Prof C.S. Vaidyanathan of the Indian Institute of Science and Prof G.K. Manna of the Kalyani University, West Bengal "for research in life sciences."

The awards are for the year 1976. Selections for awards for 1977 and 1978 are underway.

These awards were instituted in 1974 with the help of an endowment from the Hari Om Ashram Trust, Nadiad.

BOOKS

Caste Challenge in India: by Mr Jagjivan Ram, former Deputy Prime Minister of India.

The author in his book wants laws banning scavenging and similar occupations so that a casteless society is possible. He says that the dehumanising profession of scavenging was not vital for and could be dispensed with "by a little change in our ways of living." Inter-caste marriages should be encouraged by the upper castes and young people taking the step should be given every encouragement.

"Untouchability exists only in the context of caste", Mr Ram observes. "Eradication of caste would mean an automatic abolition of untouchability even from men's mind."

Mr Ram, in his book, rejects change of religion and revolution as solutions to the problems of Harijans and says that only the uplift of the submerged sections as a whole would bring about national prosperity.

Three Winters: is a collection of poems written by Mr Czeslaw Milosz, an exiled Polish writer, who has been awarded the 1980 Nobel Prize for Literature. The book was published in 1936.

PERSONS

Attenborough, Sir Richard: He is a British film director currently venturing to produce multi-million dollar film on Mahatma Gandhi—a joint Indo-British venture.

Benacerraf, Prof Baruj: He is co-sharer of the 1980 Nobel Prize in Medicine along with Prof Jean d'Ausset and George Snell.

Born in Caracas, Prof Benacerraf has been an American citizen since 1943 and pathology professor at Harvard Medical School in Boston, Massachusetts since 1970.

Prof Benacerraf, along with two researchers, has explored the genetic regulation of the body's immune response. Their research showed that so-called H-antigens (histocompatibility antigens) determine the interaction of the multitude of different cells responsible for the body's immunological reactions—including combat of infections and rejection of foreign matter.

Berg, Prof Paul: of Stanford University in California, is one of the three winners of the 1980 Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

New York born Prof Berg, 54, has been cited for his fundamental studies of the biochemistry of nucleic acids.

Cronin, Prof James W.: is co-sharer of the 1980 Nobel Prize in Physics along with Prof Val L. Fitch (both of U.S.A.).

Prof Cronin works at Chicago University. The award has been given to him "for three related symmetry principles that are important to fundamental laws of nature."

The discovery, like several others in recent years, helps to explain the "Big Bang" theory on the creation of solar system and earth.

d'Ausset, Prof Jean: co-sharer of the 1980 Nobel Prize in Medicine, is a Frenchman working at the immunology and haematology (blood study) laboratory of the University of Paris at Saint Louis Hospital.

Esquivel, Adolfo Poroz: of Argentina, is 48-year-old sculptor, architect and human rights advocate who has been awarded the 1980 Nobel Peace Prize.

Mr Esquivel, who "has devoted his life to the struggle for human rights since 1974", is a leader of the organisation *Servicio Pazy Justice*, which has its head office in Buenos Aires and subsidiaries in a number of Latin American countries.

Mr Esquivel is the second Argentinian to win the Nobel Peace Prize in its 79-year history. The first was the late Carlos Saavedra Lamas, the Argentine Secretary of State who was honoured in 1936 for mediating in a conflict between Paraguay and Bolivia.

Gilbert, Prof Walter: is one of the three co-sharers of the 1980 Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

48-year-old Prof Gilbert has been cited, along with British Prof Frederick Sanger of Columbia University, "for their contributions concerning the determination of base consequences in nucleic acids."

Kim Jong Il: He is son of President Kim Il Sung of North Korea. He has been installed as heir apparent to the aging leader by North Korea's ruling workers (Communist) party.

Klein, Prof Lawrence: See "Nobel Prize in Economics" page 259.

Milosz, Czeslaw: He is an exiled Polish writer who has been awarded the 1980 Nobel Prize for Literature.

Mr Milosz is 69. He was born in Lithuania in 1911 with Polish as his mother tongue and has been living in exile in the U.S.A. since 1960. He teaches at Berkeley University in California.

The 18-member Swedish Academy of Letters decided to award the prize to Mr Milosz "who with uncompromising clear-sightedness voices man's exposed condition in a world of severe conflicts."

Mr Milosz is a profuse writer of both prose and poetic works and is also known for political, literary and highly intellectual cultural analyses. He has written a partly autobiographical novel but regards himself chiefly as a poet.

His first collection of poems appeared in 1933. It brought him a prize and enabled him to study in Paris in 1934-35. Back in Vilna, he published a second collection of poems in 1936 called "Three Winters".

Sanger, Prof Frederick: 62-year-old British professor of Cambridge University is co-sharer of the 1980 Nobel Prize in Chemistry along with two Americans—Prof Paul Berg and Prof Walter Gilbert.

Prof Sanger has won the Nobel Prize for the second time. He previously won it in 1958 for his work in chemical code-bearing of proteins, the building blocks of living matter.

Snell, George: of the U.S.A. is co-sharer of the 1980 Nobel Prize in Medicine. He works at Jackson Laboratory, Bar Harbor in Maine. He is 77 but still active.

Wechmar, Ruediger Von: He has been elected as President of

the 35th session of the U.N. General Assembly.

Mr Wechmar, a career diplomat, was the West German Ambassador to the United Nations before his election as President of the world body.

PLACES

Abadan: in Iran is known for Asia's biggest and one of the world's biggest oil refineries. It has become inoperative due to undeclared war between Iraq and Iran. It was surrounded by Iraqi troops who took positions in the suburbs of Abadan on Oct. 15 trying to infiltrate into the city.

Ahwaz: is capital of Iran's oil province of Khuzestan and Mahashahr where fierce fighting has been going on as Iranian and Iraqi troops battled for the control of the capital of Iran's oil province of (Khuzestan).

El-Asnam: city in Western Algeria which was hit by two major earthquakes on October 11 and virtually levelled the town trapping about 55,000 people.

Khorramshahr: is Iran's major oil port where severe fighting has been going on between Iraq and Iran. Both sides have been claiming control of the port. A \$ 3 billion Persian Gulf petroleum complex is under construction in the east of Khorramshahr.

Shatt-Al-Arab: Where the waters of the Tigris and Euphrates come together and flow down the Gulf is the disputed Waterway (river) which marks the frontier between Iraq and Iran. It runs between the two countries at the head of the Gulf where heavy fighting has been going on for control of the Waterway.

Shatt-Al-Arab is Iraq's only outlet to the sea. On one side of the 100-mile stretch is Basra, Iraq's major port, and on the other side is Abadan, the site where Iran's largest oil refinery is located.

At the mouth of the estuary both the countries maintain their oil terminals.

The dispute over the control of Shatt-Al-Arab has been raging intermittently between Iran and Iraq since the fall of the Ottoman empire, when Turkey controlled both banks for a long period.

Iraq was exercising full sovereignty over the entire estuary. By that deal the late Shah of Iran agreed to stop his regime's support to the Kurdish rebels (who were fighting for independence from Iraq). Iraq in return agreed the border between the two countries was to run down the centre of the Waterway.

PLANNING

Sixth Five-Year Plan: According to Dr M.S. Swaminathan, member of the Planning Commission, the total plan outlay for the Sixth Plan might be around Rs. 1,55,000 crores. Of this, the public sector outlay would be Rs. 90,000 crores.

The major emphasis would be on four areas—generation of employment, lessening poverty, reducing regional imbalances, ecological security and price stability.

It was for the first time that ecological security was being made a major objective. This was important for sustained agricultural production.

It has also been decided to have a permanent distribution system so that essential commodities were made available to people at fair prices.

Savings and Investment in the Sixth Plan: Maximisation of savings and investment in all sectors is one of the prime needs of the Indian economy for achieving a rapid rate of economic growth. The Sixth Five-Year Plan has fixed an overall annual rate of growth of 5 to 5.3 per cent for the economy as a whole with about 4 per cent growth rate

per year for agriculture and 8 to 9 per cent per year for industry. For achieving these targets, the required aggregate gross domestic savings and investment have been placed at Rs. 149647 crores and Rs. 156000 crores respectively.

The total household sector savings target is Rs. 106275 crores, out of which the target for savings in financial assets is Rs. 44085 crores. It is in this context of the need for maximizing savings and capital formation that the various investment opportunities are discussed in this Survey.

PROJECTS

Second Steel Plant in Orissa: The Union Cabinet agreed in principle on October 14, to locate a shore-based steel plant at Paradeep, in Orissa.

The project, estimated to cost between Rs. 2,000 crores to Rs. 2,500 crores, will provide the state with a second steel plant, Rourkela being the first.

SPACE RESEARCH

New Space endurance record set: Two Soviet spacemen, Valery Ryumin and Valery Popov, set a new world space endurance record on October 2 after passing the old mark of 175 days and 36 minutes set in 1979 by Valery Ryumin and his previous mission commander, Vladimir Lyakhov on board Salyut-6.

The two cosmonauts, who were launched on last April 9, have been living and working since they have been aboard the 15-metre long Salyut-6 space station. They spent 185 days there, the longest space flight in the history of cosmonauts.

Soyuz-38: was launched by the Soviet Union on Sept. 19 manned by cosmonauts Yuri Romanenko of the Soviet Union and Arnaldo Mendez of Cuba,

(Contd. on page 262)

The Transformation of China

(Contd. from page 218)

that the country has made immense strides in many directions. China is a major nuclear power, a major oil power also and of course the most important power in the East. The oil bonanza may not turn out to be as big as earlier expected, and heavy industry is reported to be stagnant. But with the agreements to ensure full technological collaboration with the West, the economic progress may be swift and the deficiencies may be made up soon. As for the people, there is a greater desire for living in peace and harmony. The "ultra-leftism" is being dropped as too expensive and even cruel.

The Crisis of Urbanisation

(Contd. from page 220)

be desirable to link all these small towns with the bigger cities and with the villages. A network of roads and railways should be speedily planned; obviously, if the transport problem is solved, a good part of the battle against unhealthy urbanisation would be won.

Sixth Five-Year Plan Framework

(Contd. from page 222)

of the Central and the State government plans, as stated in the Preface to the plan-frame under discussion, will it is feared, lack coherence and consistency of a plan document. It will be but a hodge-podge assembly of sub-national plans. (G) The objectives of education development are over-ambitious. For instance is it possible to provide literacy for all citizens? (H) Poverty and unemployment remain distant goals and the plan-frame inspires little hope for their attainment. Little wonder if the evils of economic concentration get well-entrenched into the Indian soil.

Farm Mechanisation in India

(Contd. from page 224)

bother for improved, time-and labour-saving techniques. Farming is still a way of life for them and the large majority are not machine-minded. The man behind the plough, for instance, remains still un-moved at the remarkable achievement of India in the realm of space technology which is marked by the launching of a satellite (Rohini) into the earth's orbit from the Indian soil (Sriharikota, to be precise). India has now acquired the pride of place in the world Space Club. She holds the sixth position; the other five nations being USSR, USA, France, Japan and China. Will it change the mind of the tradition-ridden farmers?

(ii) **Finance:** The small farmer is too poor to buy a tractor worth several thousand rupees. The incentive to invest his limited resources is less particularly because the machine and implements will remain under-utilised on his small and tiny holdings.

The NCA had suggested the provision of tractor hiring facilities for the farmers. Co-operative societies would, perhaps, be the best agencies for the purpose. According to NCAER, 80 per cent of the services of the hired tractors are used by the small and medium farmers in the seven States studied by it.

(iii) **Service stations:** The absence of easily accessible service stations in the villages is yet another hurdle in introducing mechanisation in agricultural farms.

Conclusion

Tractors are a significant instrument of growth enabling farmers to produce more, utilise their inputs better, employ more labour and effect timely sowing and other operations. It (tractor) is no longer an implement of the larger farmer alone. Small and medium farmers also take advantage of it.

CURRENT G. K.

(Contd. from page 261)

who returned to earth on Sept. 27, after a successful space flight.

Bhaskara II nearing completion: Bhaskara-II, an improved version of Bhaskara-I, is nearing completion for its proposed launch in the middle of next year.

It is geared up to generate remote sensing information in the visible, near infra-wave lengths and micro-wave frequencies on the Indian land mass and adjoining seas.

It has been designed to ensure more sensitive measurement of liquid water content in the atmosphere.

Some major improvements have been identified and are being incorporated to rectify some of the problems relating to switching on TV camera.

Objective-Type Tests General Studies

(Contd. from page 250)

ANSWERS

1. (b)	2. (c)
3. (c)	4. (a)
5. (b)	6. (c)
7. (a) and (b)	8. (a)
9. (b)	10. (b)
11. (a)	12. (b)
13. (c)	14. (c)
15. (d)	16. (b)
17. (d)	18. (c)
19. (a)	20. (b)
21. (c)	22. (c)
23. (c)	24. (b)
25. (c)	26. (c)
27. (a)	28. (d)
29. (b)	30. (a)
31. (c)	32. (c)
33. (c)	34. (c)
35. (a)	36. (a)
37. (a)	38. (c)
39. (a)	40. (c)

VOCABULARY

(Meaning of selected words used in this issue)

aberration: deviation from the usual, normal, or right; wandering of the intellect; mental lapse.

abhorrent: detesting; repugnant; strongly opposed; out of keeping; detestable; detested.

alibi: the plea in a criminal charge of having been elsewhere at the material time; the fact of being elsewhere.

animosity: strong dislike; enmity.

apothecary: a druggist or pharmacist.

avowal: a positive declaration; an acknowledgement; a frank confession.

awry: twisted to one side; distorted, crooked; wrong, perverse.

axe to grind: a private purpose to serve.

belligerent: waging war; a party or person waging war.

browbeat: to bear down with stern looks or speech; to bully.

cerebrum: the front and larger part of the brain.

chauvinism: an absurdly extravagant pride in one's country, with a corresponding contempt for foreign nations.

chicanery: trickery or artifice, esp. in legal proceedings, quibbling.

chirm: to cry out; to chirp.

cinderella: a scullery-maid; the despised and neglected one of a set.

cynicism: contempt for human nature; heartlessness; surliness.

dastardly: cowardly; shrinking from danger; dastard is a

cowardly fellow; loosely, one who does a brutal act without giving his victim a chance.

depredation: act of plundering; state of being depredated.

dubious: doubtful; undetermined; causing doubt; of uncertain event or issue.

eulogise: to praise; to extoll.

exasperate: to make rough, harsh; to make more grievous or painful; to make very angry; to irritate in a high degree.

fallacious: deceptive; misleading; not well-founded; causing disappointment; delusive.

ferocity: savage cruelty of disposition; untamed fierceness.

inter alia (L): among other things.

invertebrate: without a vertebral column or backbone; weak, irresolute; characterless; formless.

inveterate: firmly established by long continuance; deep rooted; confirmed in any habit; rootedly hostile.

irony: the Socratic method of discussion by professing ignorance; conveyance of meaning (generally satirical) by words whose literal meaning is the opposite; a situation or utterance (as in a tragedy) that has a significance unperceived at the time, or by the person involved.

jargon: twittering, confused talk; chatter; artificial or barbarous language.

malaise: uneasiness; a feeling of discomfort or of sickness.

mandate: a right given to a person to act in name of another; a command from a supe-

rior official or judge to an inferior, ordering him to act; power conferred upon a state by U.N.O. to govern a reign elsewhere.

menage: a household; the management of a house.

metamorphose: to transform; to subject to metamorphism or metamorphosis; to develop in another form.

modus vivendi: a way or mode of living—an arrangement or compromise by means of which those who differ may get on together for a time.

moratorium: an emergency measure authorising the suspension of payments of debts for a given time; the period thus declared.

nefarious: extremely wicked; villainous.

obscurantist: an obscurant, pertaining to obscurantism.

ostracize: to exclude from society.

protagonist: the chief actor, character, or combatant; (loosely) a champion, advocate.

pugnacious: given to fighting; combative; quarrelsome.

punitive: concerned with, inflicting, or intended to inflict, punishment.

quid pro quo (L): something given or taken as equivalent to another.

rampant: high-spirited; fierce; unrestrained.

recrimination: act of accusing in return; counter-charge.

renegade: one faithless to principle or party; a turn-coat.

repast: a meal; refreshment of sleep.

Appointments Etc.

Appointed, Elected Etc.

Bulent Ulusu: Appointed Prime Minister of Turkey.

T. Anjiah: Appointed Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh on October 11. He replaced Dr Chenna Reddy.

Parmanand: Elected Speaker of the Jammu & Kashmir Assembly. He was nominee of the ruling National Conference.

Dr Ali Mohammad Khusro: Appointed India's Ambassador to West Germany in place of Mr Mohammad Ataur Rahman.

Jagannath S. Doddamani: Appointed India's Ambassador

to Qatar. He was India's High Commissioner to Jamaica.

Ruedigar Von Wechmar: of West Germany, elected President of the 35th session of the U.N. General Assembly.

Distinguished Visitors

Veselin Djuranovic: Prime Minister of Yugoslavia.

Died

Maulana Mufti Mahmud: Pakistan's prominent Opposition political leader.

Resigned

James Callaghan: Leader of the Labour Party in Britain.

EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

22—The President promulgates the National Security Ordinance to enable the Government to detain any person to prevent from acting against the defence or security of the country.

Criminal Procedure Code amended by another Ordinance making bail provision difficult and vesting more powers in the executive with a view to effectively deal with habitual criminals and those creating enmity between two different groups and communities.

—Waves of Iraqi aircraft strike at 10 Iranian air bases; undeclared war starts between the two countries.

24—The U.N. Security Council appeals for an immediate end to the fighting between Iran and Iraq.

25—Fighting between Iraq and Iran intensified; Iraqi war-

planes bomb the Iranian capital Teheran.

29—Fierce street fighting in Ahwaz as Iranian and Iraqi troops battle for control of the capital of Iran's oil province Khuzestan.

OCTOBER

3—Nation-wide token strike in Poland.

—The Government of India describes as "dangerous" the move by the United States, Britain, France and Australia to constitute an "Armada"-type international naval force with warships taking up positions in the Persian Gulf region "to see that the Straits of Hormuz is kept open for international shipping."

5—Kashmir Assembly pro-rogued under Section 53 of the Jammu & Kashmir State Constitution.

—President Zia-ul-Haque rules out elections in Pakistan "in the present situation".

9—The Soviet Union and Syria sign a 20-year friendship treaty that calls for strengthened military co-operation, immediate "contact" when either is threatened and regular consultations, "above all on the problems of West Asia."

—Midnight raid on Dezful, Iran's south-western city, by long-range Iraqi rockets (60-km. range) killing over 60 people and injuring 300.

—The Election Commission grants recognition to the Janata (JP) political party led by Mr Chandrashekhar and allotted the symbol of Haldhar within wheel, which had been earlier frozen.

10—Union Labour Minister, T. Anjiah appointed Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh in place of Dr Chenna Reddy.

11—The censure motion in the Jammu & Kashmir Assembly against the Speaker, Malik Mohiuddin, adopted by the House.

—55,000 reported dead in devastating earthquake which hit the western Algerian city of El-Asnam.

14—All events excepting yachting of the 1982 Asian Games are likely to be held in Delhi only.

—Iraqis pushing towards key Iranian oil centres.

—Assam talks bogged on aliens' issue.

—Maruti Limited taken over by the government under a Presidential Ordinance.

—Emergency declared in Sri Lanka.

—Australia to derecognise the ousted Pol Pot regime in Kampuchea.

15—Iraq tightens grip on Abadan.

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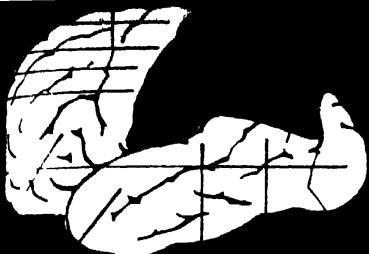
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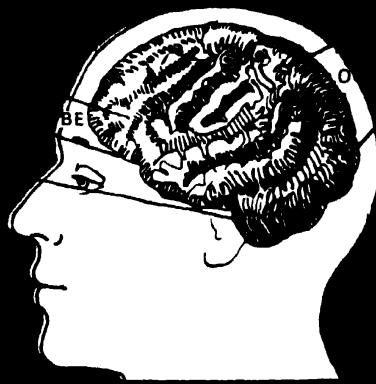
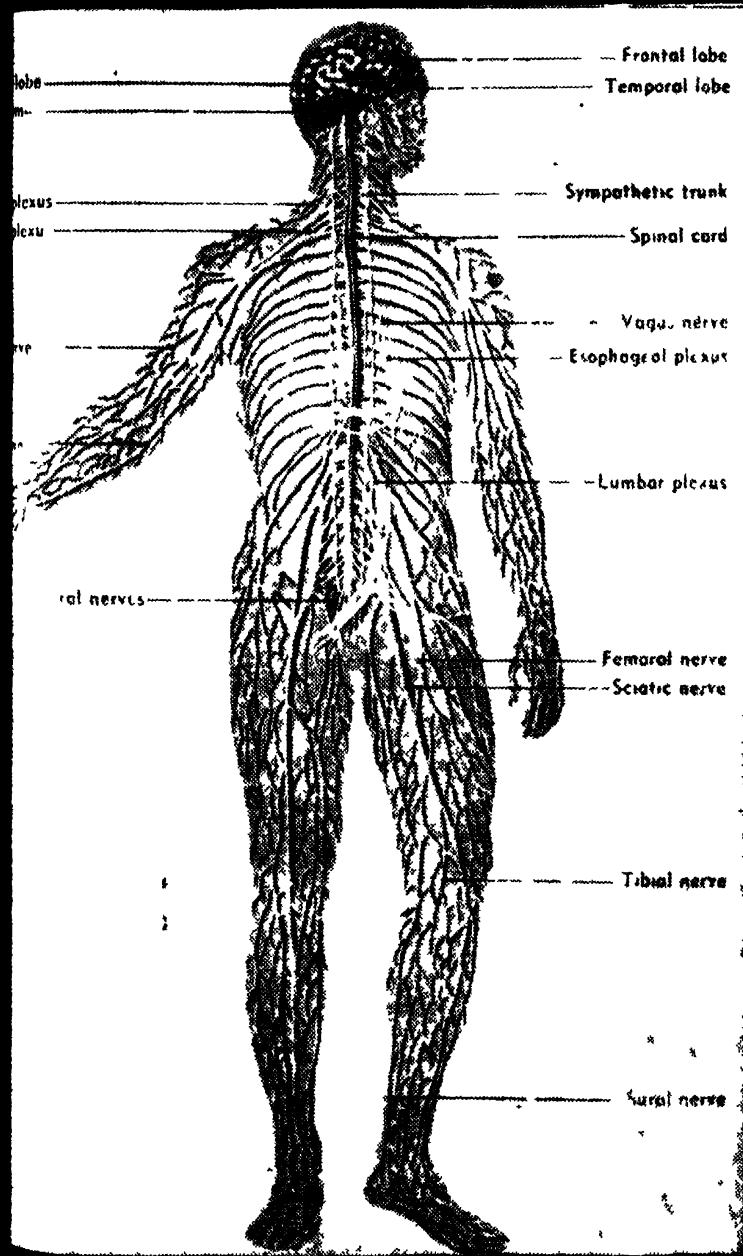
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Letter from the Editor

NEW YEAR SPECIAL NUMBER

Dear Readers,

A few days more and another year will have passed into history. We hope 1980 has been a gainful period for you.

*You have our best wishes always of course, but on this New Year's eve, we propose to place in your hands another Special Issue of the *Competition Master*. This New Year Special Number coming out next month will be something refreshingly new. It is being so designed to be of maximum use to you for months to come. We shall make it a mine of information on all topics which would prove eminently useful to you in your career.*

In the past the demand for Special Numbers of the CM has often outrun supply. We would, therefore, suggest early booking of copies so as to avoid disappointment.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Editor

The Competition Master

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Fateful Swing in World Politics

SURPRISES are a part of life, and politicians' political fortunes vary with the wind. Mr Jimmy Carter, now the lame duck President of the U.S.A., has been the latest victim of the wind of change. Normally, the election of the President of a country, big or small, is regarded essentially as a domestic matter, with only a marginal impact on international developments and on the future of the wide world for a specified period. But the election of Mr Ronald Reagan, (following a historic landslide) as the 40th President of the U.S.A., the world's most prosperous and most influential nation, is an event which is bound to have far-reaching repercussions. For millions of people the U.S.A. symbolises the West; they depend for crucial arms and economic assistance on this Giant Power; in effect, they feel that their progress on modern lines depends upon the extent to which Washington smiles upon them.

For this and other reasons, countless people across the continents and the seven seas were hoping for a Carter victory, though there were also millions who had suffered as a result of the U.S. policies pursued during his occupation of the White House. Many now fear that international tensions will increase and there would be more strains in the relations between the Eagle and the Bear—the U.S.A. and the Soviet Union. Mr Reagan was widely described during the election campaign as a war-monger; he has yet to live down his dubious reputation. Perhaps the hard realities of office and the international exigencies will soften Mr Reagan's stony stand and make him more of a realist than he is. Aggressive postures which threaten a resumption of the infamous cold war would again throw world politics into the melting pot and endanger all constructive moves for peaceful development, which two-thirds of the world now urgently needs.

Some of the poll promises which, in the heat of the moment, Mr Reagan made were indeed eye-catching. If elected, he said, he would "get government out of the people's hair" (reduce the size and cost of the government machinery and also bring about a sizable cut in taxes). He also assured that he would put America "back to work". The American masses were evidently carried away by such gilded promises; they thought here indeed was the man of the hour who

would like to do what would suit them best—fewer taxes, less of government and more of freedom—*laissez-faire* policy, in short. The Americans do want, and urgently need, a happier tomorrow. But very often in history such a tomorrow has never dawned, and it has been the same dismal story of strains and stresses all over again.

What Mr Reagan does to the Americans' internal economy is far less significant than his probable military and foreign policies. Salt-II is dead for all practical purposes, even though the treaty was the result of years of sustained effort. The signs are that the cold war era will return, which does not augur well for the term of a distinctly conservative President. Conservatism has its points, but it is outdated and obsolete, because it often signifies a reactionary administration. In the sixties and early seventies the U.S.A. wasted millions of dollars in futile efforts to prop up tottering regimes, losing its credibility and tarnishing its image in the process. If Mr Reagan's regime would mean harking back to those Kissinger-Nixon policies of destabilising regimes to meet political and strategic ends, then the Third World has very little to look forward to.

As for India, there is not much hope of improving relations with Washington under Reagan. The progressive, forward look which alone can improve contacts seems to be missing. There is, in particular, little hope of getting the enriched uranium for running the Tarapur plant which this country urgently needs. While Mr Carter had made a commitment and had brought round hostile Congressmen to fulfil the contractual obligation to India in this regard, a President who has seldom said a good word for India is unlikely to take such risks. Nor is there evidence that Mr Reagan has, or is likely to have, a firm grip over relations with the developing countries.

The success of a U.S. President depends in good measure on Dame Luck, which, almost like Dame Rumour, is a determinant of politicians' future. Unfavourable world events may trigger the Americans' latent fears, while clear skies and smooth seas may bring full credit to the President even when he may not deserve it. So, the World Citizen, ever hopeful of peace and harmony and ever fearful of armed clashes and gunboat diplomacy, will keep his fingers crossed.

Current National Affairs

Mrs Gandhi's Stand on Presidential System

In an apparent attempt to appear neutral regarding the form of government, Mrs Gandhi is reported to have clarified on November 6 that she has no marked preference for the Presidential form of government as against the Westminster system which has been in vogue in this country. According to highly placed sources, any inference that she favoured the Presidential system, merely because she had agreed to inaugurate a lawyers' conference recently, would be unwarranted. The conference had merely called for a discussion on finding an alternative system of government.

In her address to the conference, Mrs Gandhi had referred to the troubles of the U.S. Presidential system, marked by constant wranglings between Head of State, Congress and the Senate. While arguing that those under the Presidential system also claimed to be democracies, she had spoken of the numerous letters she was getting from those countries inquiring if the Indian system worked better.

For the present, apparently, Mrs Gandhi had only wanted a national debate on the issue so that the defects in the present system could be brought to light and an appropriate remedy found to make it function more efficiently. She was only annoyed that a section of the legal community seemed to shun any debate on the issue.

These sources recalled that when the 42nd Constitution Amendment Bill was being considered by Parliament during the Emergency, a strong section in the party (ostensibly under the inspiration of the late Mr S. N. Jay Gandhi) wanted the whole debate to be deferred so as to consider a switchover to the Presidential system. But after a few days Mrs Gandhi directed the then Law Minister, Mr H.R. Gokhale, to go ahead with the passing of the Bill.

Actually, the academic debate within the Congress as to the relative merits of the parliamentary and the Presidential form of government has been going on for some years. A non-official resolution was moved at the Bhubaneswar Congress in 1964 by Mr Venkataraman (now the Union Finance Minister) for a changeover to the Presidential form. The motion was, however, talked out.

Few people can deny that even under the present arrangement, the Prime Minister enjoyed enormous powers, particularly a personality like Mrs Gandhi. (*See also argumentation on the powers and influence of India's Prime Minister.*)

Janata rules out merger

The Janata Party's National Executive on November 3 rejected proposals for merger with the Janata (S) and the Congress (U) and the Lok Dal (in Bihar).

It felt that nothing should be done to affect the party's "growing credibility" by letting in

"those who caused the fall of the Janata Party's Government by conspiring with those very authoritarian forces that the party was established to fight." Their presence, a resolution said, would expose the party to the same risk of defection as in July, 1979.

The resolution referred to the "growing realisation" among "those who were responsible for the fall of the Janata Government" that this had "exposed the country to grave dangers". The party reiterated its earlier appeal to those who had become inactive, or had left to join other parties, to return to the fold.

The party resolved to project itself as the focus of "consolidation of secular and democratic forces" and as a "national alternative".

The resolution meant that the leading figures in the July, 1979, defections from the party would not be taken back. Mr Raj Narain had suggested merger of his party with the Janata at a meeting with Mr Morarji Desai. Mr Desai was not present at the meeting of the executive.

In a resolution on the communal riots the Janata Party said these had created a sense of insecurity among the Muslims "who appear to have lost confidence in the impartiality and fairness of the administration." It demanded the creation of special force to deal with the riots.

The Janata Party also criticised as "unfortunate" the Prime Minister's "unwarranted statements" on Sri Lanka's domestic politics and her "disparaging" remarks about Nepal and Bhutan. In a resolution on the international situation the Janata Party charged the Government with a "clear tilt away from its policy of non-alignment", especially in its policy

on Afghanistan, Kampuchea and negotiations with China.

Assam Agitators' Rebuff to Centre

The Central Government's gesture to the Assam agitators for resumption of talks, disclosed on November 8, has misfired. The All-Assam Gana Sangram Parishad and the All-Assam Students' Union have rejected the offer and the deadlock continues. Meanwhile, Assam and the rest of the country continue to suffer heavy losses, especially because of the setbacks to the production of petroleum products. The agitation, now 11 months old, means a heavy burden on the foreign exchange resources due to the substantial imports of crude and petroleum products. It is likely to add another dimension to the nation's losses.

It may affect the crash programme proposed to be launched for finding new oil reserves, both offshore and on land, unless the Government decides to make good the loss suffered by the suspension of oil production from the Assam fields and the closure of the four refineries.

But, if the Government decides to finance the programme, it can do so only by imposing a heavy burden on the exchequer.

During the crisis created by the closure of the four eastern refineries at the turn of the year and the new difficulties arising from the Iran-Iraq war, the Government had to meet the internal requirements by increasing imports, first through bilateral contracts and tie-ups, and later through spot purchases at high prices.

The Government was able not only to maintain the supplies at last year's level but also to increase the allocations ranging from 5 per cent to 10 per cent. The growth rate in consumption was not as high as it

was earlier estimated. It was estimated that the growth would be 2·8 per cent in the case of motor spirit, 13·7 per cent in kerosene, and 18·4 per cent in high speed diesel (HSD). The actual growth rate in the first six months was 2·2 per cent in motor spirit, 8 per cent in kerosene and 5·6 per cent in HSD. Since all the requirements had to be met through imports, it has pushed up the country's import bill to around Rs. 5,000 crores. ONGC and Oil India were expected to meet a part of the exploration expenditure through their own earnings.

Naxalite Activity in South

During the last six months there has been a revival of Naxalite activity in several States of the South—Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Andhra Pradesh. A bomb blast conducted by the Naxalites in North Arcot claimed six lives. Over 100 Naxalites have been arrested following a campaign launched by the Tamil Nadu Government. There have been violent encounters at several places. The police have intensified their hunt and are now searching for the leaders who revived the extremist movement.

Wall writings and occasional acts of violence were in evidence in Kerala and were stated to be spreading to colleges and hostels. In Andhra Pradesh Naxalites committed eight murders and 21 dacoities in 1978, and 19 murders and 23 dacoities in 1979.

A recent development was a "spate of murders" and dacoities by "pseudo-Naxalites" in Andhra Pradesh. The Kerala Government had declared that it would deal sternly with any kind of extremist terrorism. Recently, 11 Naxalites were arrested, including a college professor and a poet.

In Karnataka, while there is no overt Naxalite activity, police

are alert because of the resurgence of extremist activities in Tamil Nadu and Kerala. The Tamil Nadu Government is planning to post a battalion of 1,000 armed policemen in North Arcot to combat Naxalite activities. This follows persistent public demands to ensure peace and security.

Some of the slogans found written on walls in Kerala read: "The war has begun; make bombs, take the guns and finish off class enemies." In a recent incident in Trichur district Naxalites were held responsible for an attack on traders for alleged acts of hoarding and black marketing.

Study classes were being conducted in the premises of certain colleges. Some arts clubs and tutorial colleges were also being used for the purpose.

The Naxalites organise street plays, which invariably depict the death of class enemies. The Marxist party has joined issue and is lately reported to be using the same technique to counter Naxalite propaganda. Official sources in Trivandrum claim there are some 500 Naxalite activists in Kerala, 350 of whom belong to the Venu group. This faction holds "poets conference" and has a front organisation called "People's Culture Centre".

Lately, there has been a vertical split with the "moderate Lin-Piao faction" clashing with the hardliner group of anti-Lin-Piao which takes recourse to violence to achieve its ends. The Nagi Reddy faction is more or less defunct.

Appunu Gounder, a close associate of Charu Mazumdar and one of those in the forefront of the Naxalite movement, has been eluding the police since 1973.

Heavy Losses in Public Sector

Despite all the high-sounding pronouncements by the Gov-

ernment and the drive for promoting production and ensuring economy, the performance of the public sector continues to be poor and the losses of many units continue to be heavy even after high sales at enhanced prices. During 1979-80 there was an overall loss of Rs. 149 crores (after tax), as against only Rs. 32 crores in 1978-79.

The volume of sales increased steadily and reached a total of Rs. 21,836 crores in 1979-80. This represents an increase of 15·6% over the previous year at current prices and is considered impressive in view of the 3% fall in national income during the year.

Indications for the first quarter of 1980-81 are that sales have continued to increase and on a *pro-rata* basis they show a rise of 8·6% over the previous year. A marked improvement has been shown by the Shipping Corporation during the quarter since it has made a net profit of Rs. 4 crores compared to a loss of Rs. 1 crore during the previous year.

The latest assessment is that the good monsoon has led to increased production in most public sector units this year. However, the steel and fertiliser sectors are not doing well as a whole although some units have performed creditably.

There has been considerable improvement in the performance of coal as well as engineering enterprises in the Eastern Sector. Except for those in Assam, or based on crude from that State, refineries have also registered further improvement. The profits of the Food Corporation, the State Trading Corporation and the Minerals and Metals Corporation or the trading group collectively—increased to Rs. 41 crores, from Rs. 31·6 crores in 1978-79.

The decline in overall profitability despite higher sales and

turnover seems to have been caused by the increase in the cost of production, largely attributable to higher costs of inputs caused by inflationary pressures. The shortfall in production is another major factor for the increased losses.

Syllabi for IAS Exam

The Union Public Service Commission has set up a sub-committee to review the syllabi for its important examinations, in particular the civil services examinations, following the receipt from various quarters of representations for inclusion of additional subjects in these examinations.

As a first step, the U.P.S.C. has decided to reintroduce the same subjects for these examinations which were in the old I.A.S. Examination Scheme. The subjects are: Statistics (both preliminary and main examination), Agriculture to be separate from Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry (both preliminary and the main exams); Sociology syllabus to be simplified to include Social Anthropology content (preliminary exams), language and literature of Pali and Chinese (main exams) and Anthropology (main exams).

In line with its policy of modernising practices and procedures in the commission, the U.P.S.C. has commissioned, with the assistance of the British Council, two pieces of electronic optimal mark readers. This equipment is capable of scoring the answer-sheets at a very fast rate. The UPSC will also open new examination centres for its important examinations in the north-east region next year. These centres will be located at Itanagar (Arunachal Pradesh), Jorhat (Assam), Imphal (Manipur), Aizawl (Mizoram), Kohima (Nagaland) and Agartala (Tripura).

Rural Candidates: Students from rural areas are fast catch-

ing up with their counterparts from the cities in competing for the I.A.S. Of all candidates who qualified for the interview (after written results of civil services (main) examination, 1979), some 42.73 per cent had a rural background. Of the first 10 finally successful candidates five had a rural background.

On the basis of civil services examination, 1979, the Commission recommended to the Government in June this year a list of 702 candidates for appointments to IAS, IFS, IPS, and various other Central Services.

About 85 per cent of the candidates declared successful in the civil services (main) examination last year, had English as the medium of learning at college, only 11 per cent had the Hindi medium, and three per cent other regional language. One per cent were of mixed nature. Of the 702 candidates selected for appointment some 72.93 per cent are post graduates. This shows that the scheme of the examination is fairly stiff and that the post-graduate level attainment is required for making the grade.

The position regarding Scheduled Castes is as follows:— 211 below 24 and higher age-bracket 1,062. Among the Scheduled Castes/Tribes, about 189 were in the lower age group and 661 in the higher age group.

It appears that the higher age concessions allowed to SC/ST candidates has begun to attract more people from these sections.

Road accident rate highest in India

Although the number of motor vehicles in Indian cities is a fraction of the number in most cities of the world, the accident rate is stated to be the highest in the world. The reasons are the poor state of the roads and repeated violations of

the traffic rules.

Inaugurating a three-day highway safety workshop of the Indian Roads Congress in Calcutta on November 1, a West Bengal Minister, Mr Chakraborty, said that in India where the number of vehicles even in a big city was hardly one-tenth of the big cities of the world, the rate of road accidents was the highest. The average fatality rate per 10,000 motor vehicles in our country was about 60 as against five to 15 in most developed countries.

Road accidents in India claim nearly 14,000 lives every year, according to the Vice-President of the Indian Roads Congress Mr C.G. Swaminathan. The failure to improve the road conditions and the increasing number of roads were the prime cause for the high percentage of road accidents in the country. New roads should be designed and constructed with safety built into the system and the existing ones should be improved.

Mr Swaminathan suggested a scientific study of each accident-prone stretch as a remedial measure. But these would be pointless unless we are sure that the results will be effective.

The high proportion of casualties of two-wheelers was becoming a matter of great concern. He said a separate Cycle-track should be provided to minimise the accidents of two-wheelers.

Despite an annual increase in the number of vehicles and the travelling in the past few years in Japan, there has been a gradual decrease in the accident rate, because of the application of the results of accident analysis while designing new roads. In India such application is rare.

Cinemas in Concurrent List

Most of the States agreed on November 5 to the inclusion of cinemas in the Concurrent

List of the Constitution. Until now, the subject has been in the State list. Tamil Nadu, however, opposed the proposal at the Information Ministers' Conference in Delhi because of the State's great contribution to the film industry. West Bengal also did not agree with the proposal and wanted time to consider it.

The actual transfer of cinemas to the Concurrent List would take some time and film interests would also be consulted. The change would enable the Centre to introduce uniform legislation regarding distribution, processing laboratories and promotion of regional films.

An official spokesman claimed that there was unanimity of views on the other recommendations of the Working Group which were expected to go a long way in improvement of the cinema, both as an industry and as an art form. Among the accepted recommendations was inclusion of film appreciation courses in school and college syllabi.

The Information Ministry suggested that the Planning Commission should give priority to improvements in mass media and funds for that purpose should be provided. Tamil Nadu and West Bengal did not endorse the suggestion for a film development cess to be levied by the Centre. The other States agreed with the proposal of Union Information Minister Vasant Sathe that the States should earmark one per cent of the Entertainment Tax for film development.

The conference also recommended that in regard to All India Radio there should be programme advisory committees for each station with adequate representation for State Governments.

In regard to extending the coverage of the AIR the North-Eastern region would get priority in the 1980-85 plan of the Minis-

try. He urged the States to take over responsibility of maintaining and installing the community radio and TV sets.

New Bank Policies

Fresh directives are expected to be issued to the Commercial banks soon to encourage the grant of loans to the priority sectors and to facilitate implementation of the 20-point programme laid down by the Government. In this regard, the Government and the Reserve Bank has generally accepted the recommendations of the Working Group headed by Dr K.S. Krishnaswamy, Deputy Governor of RBI.

Implementation of the recommendations by all commercial banks, in both public and private sectors, it is felt, will go a long way towards enabling the banking system to fulfil the basic objectives of the programme—efficient production and distribution of essential goods and services to the community and better distributive justice by raising the income and standards of living of the weaker sections.

The introduction of the concept of weaker sections in the main components (namely agriculture and small-scale industry) of the priority sector, with separate sub-targets for lending to such weaker sections and redefinition of some of the priority sectors, would ensure that the beneficiaries obtain adequate support from banks under the priority sector lending scheme.

The Reserve Bank has emphasised that the banks should see that suitable viable schemes are formulated in consultation with State development agencies for all the beneficiaries under the 20-point programme identified by State agencies and adequate finance provided for their implementation.

The action plan for 1981 and 1982 onwards should explicitly provide for assistance to the beneficiaries under the programme. In future it will also be necessary for individual banks to integrate such assistance in the branch budgets.

As the assistance to the beneficiaries would be provided mostly by the rural and semi-urban branches, banks should review the staff deployment at such centres to ensure a smooth flow of credit to these sectors. The mechanism for monitoring and evaluating the performance of individual banks in assisting the beneficiaries would be on the same lines as indicated for priority sector lending in general.

While it has not been considered appropriate to fix any annual target within the overall target of 40% to be achieved by 1985, all banks are to aim at ensuring that a minimum of 40 per cent of additional credit every year flows to the priority sectors.

In view of the prominent position that agriculture occupies in the national economy, banks should ensure that at least 40 per cent of the advances to the priority sectors is extended to agriculture and allied activities. This would mean that the advances to the agricultural sector would be at least 16 per cent of the total advances by 1985.

The "weaker sections" in this sector comprise small and marginal farmers with land holdings of five acres and less and landless labourers, and persons engaged in allied activities whose borrowing limits for such activities do not exceed Rs. 10,000. Direct advances to such "weaker sections" should reach at least 50 per cent of the total direct lending to agriculture (including allied activities) by 1983.

All small-scale industries with credit limits upto Rs. 25,000

should be treated as "weaker sections" in this category. Advances to such sections should constitute 12·5 per cent of the total advances to small-scale industries by 1985.

While providing loans for consumption and housing schemes for slum clearance, banks may also evolve schemes to provide gainful employment to slum dwellers and allottees of house sites in various activities under the priority sector.

Banks are also asked to even out regional imbalances in credit deployment in the best feasible manner and explore the possibility of additional credit deployment in backward areas.

U.N. Decade for Drinking Water

On November 9 the U.N. launched the "International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (IDWSSD)." With this movement the U.N. system has taken a major initiative that may have a direct impact on at least half the world's population by 1990. According to present estimates, over 2,000 million people are without reasonable access to safe and adequate water supply. Many more lack proper sanitation facilities among mankind's basic needs.

A function in this connection was held in New Delhi on that day. In countries like India the importance of water and its safe supply to the maximum number of people has been long recognised. Mrs Gandhi wrote in a recent special issue of "World Health": "Water is essential to life, and civilisation is something of a dialogue between man and water. The earliest humans settled on river banks, besides lakes and on the sea coast, and there too flourished agricultural and much of industrial activity. The proper management of water, for

domestic and economic purposes, is a basic aspect of social management and Government."

Welcoming the IDWSSD, Mrs Gandhi called for international co-operation to supplement the inadequate resources of poor countries to ensure the supply of clean drinking water and improve their arrangements for sewage disposal.

India has made a strong commitment to complete an ambitious programme of water supply and sanitation during this decade. The UNDP (the focal point for the U.N. agencies' collaboration for the decade) in co-operation with WHO, UNICEF and the World Bank, is implementing global, inter-regional and national projects which will help in achieving the objectives of the Decade.

India gave priority to rural water supply in the Fifth Plan and allocations for this purpose in the Sixth Plan have been increased. Under the Minimum Needs Programme and the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme, the Government proposes to fulfil the basic needs for water supply in all the problem villages in the country by 1985. Detailed planning and programming is being undertaken by every State and Union Territory.

In India, where the provision of drinking water is a national priority, between 25 and 30% of UNICEF's assistance to programmes for children is invested in water supply and sanitation. Over the decade 1971-80, the assistance to this sector was 50 m. dollars.

India's Stand on N.-Safeguards

India on November 8 reiterated her familiar stand on the "full-scope nuclear safeguards" on which the Big Powers have been insisting. It provided the lone voice of dissent to a suggestion to place world nuclear

installations under the control of the International Atomic Energy Agency (I.A.E.A.) as a measure to eliminate the risk of nuclear fuel diversion for military use.

In a U.N. General Assembly debate on a resolution calling for an international conference in 1983 to promote the use of nuclear energy, particularly in developing countries, the Indian delegate, Mr N.G. Ranga, reiterated the traditional Indian stand and said the new I.A.E.A. guidelines for technical assistance were "restrictive and preferential." They are designed to promote the nuclear goals of certain nations under the pretext of preventing nuclear development for military purpose.

India, which exploded an atomic device in 1974 at Pokharan receives no I.A.E.A. aid because of its refusal to comply with the guidelines and allow inspection of its nuclear facilities.

Panel on Communal Amity

The 53-member, newly constituted National Integration Council, which met in Delhi on November 12, decided to set up a standing committee with the responsibility of maintaining a continuous watch on the implementation of strategies designed to counter communal and caste tensions in the country. The committee will also keep a watch over all divisive trends. The Integration Council has been revived to consolidate secular forces so as to counter the growing challenges to communal harmony and national unity, but it has been boycotted by some Opposition leaders, particularly the Lok Dal chief, Mr Charan Singh. The Council discussed the problems of keeping the peace in the North-East and also the education system which, it is felt, needs to be reoriented so as to promote all-round harmony and remove texts which are con-

sidered objectionable on certain grounds. *Ad hoc* committees to examine the education system and the prescribed books are also proposed to be formed.

Setting the tone for the discussions on vital matters, the Prime Minister, while reiterating the path of dialogue and understanding, stressed the need for more sustained efforts to bring the various parts of the North-Eastern region into the national mainstream. Deploring the role of certain communal organisations which gave a distorted picture of unfortunate developments, the Prime Minister cautioned that the administration could not remain a silent spectator of mischievous moves. She called upon the leaders of various schools of thought to counter the influence of such organisations by all political, legal and administrative means available to them.

Even though the communal problem is not easy to solve and many Hindu-Muslim riots have taken place in recent months, the Integration Council meeting helped to partially fill the communication gap between the Government and the people in general.

National integration, in any case, is difficult to achieve in view of the large number of adverse factors which hinder the efforts to promote goodwill among the various communities. Among such factors are the sons of the soil theory, the mixing up of religion and politics, the interference by politicians in the working of the administration, especially the police and the law-and-order keeping machinery. A balanced economic growth and more employment opportunities for members of the minority communities would remove some of the causes of discontent which flare up.

Current International Affairs

Carter Out; Reagan In

Poor performance, economic setbacks, the growing unemployment and the lack of any spectacular success in foreign relations have cost Mr Jimmy Carter the American Presidency. In the Presidential elections, held on November 4 after four years, Mr Ronald Reagan won a landslide victory that surprised and even startled the world and of course all well-wishers of Mr Jimmy Carter.

In most of the 50 States of the U.S.A. Mr Carter lost support and ultimately he conceded defeat; in a customary sporting gesture he offered his full co-operation to Mr Reagan and make his term a success and also to facilitate the transition from Democratic Party to Republican rule. Mr Reagan is generally believed to be a conservative and rigid in his policies. On getting elected he promised to do his utmost to justify the faith the Americans had placed in him.

Mr Reagan's margin devalued history's great landslides, those of Mr Richard M. Nixon in 1972 and of Mr Lyndon R. Johnson in 1964.

Thus ended the longest campaign, in an electoral vote runaway that belied the forecasts of the President and the pollsters that it would be a close race. On January 20, 1981, Mr Reagan will be sworn in as the 40th President of the U.S.A. At 69, nearing 70, the former California Governor also will be the oldest man to take the highest office.

Mr Ronald Reagan's victory over President Carter was based on one overriding factor; voters were dissatisfied with the President's overall performance.

Mr Reagan swept over President Carter in State after State because on all the major issues—Iran, inflation, foreign policy, defence and unemployment—the voters disapproved of President Carter's performance. This was evident even in the traditional Democratic constituencies. He lost the Roman Catholic vote as well as the blue-collar vote. He barely won among union members and the Jewish voters.

According to an assessment, two-thirds of the nation's voters rated President Carter's performance as fair or poor, and more than three-fourths of those who felt that way voted for Mr Reagan.

A measure of Mr Carter's unpopularity is the response to the questions asking voters to give one or two reasons why they voted as they did. Two-thirds of the Reagan voters said they voted for the Republican because President Carter was doing a bad job as President; nearly as many said it was time for a change in Washington.

Another facet of Mr Carter's problems was clear in the defections among voters who supported him four years ago. This time the President got the votes of barely half of the people who voted for him in 1976. More voters mentioned inflation as the reason for their vote than any other topic. Voters who felt

- Carter Out; Reagan In**
- Terms for Release of Hostages**
- U.S. Arms Aid for Iran**
- Iran Rejects Peace Moves**
- U.S.S.R.-Syria Pact**
- New Life for U.N. Relief Body**
- Kampuchea Crisis Unresolved**
- Russia's Record Sea Power**
- N-Powers' Tactics**
- Karmal's "Brain-washing" in Russia**
- Russia Warns Poland**
- Chinese Fighter for Pak**
- U.N. Vote for S. Africa's Boycott**

that way supported Mr Reagan by more than 3 to 1.

The second most important issue was strengthening of Americans' position in the world. By a 3 to 2 margin, the voters disapproved of President Carter's handling of the hostages crisis in Iran. Four of every five of those who disapproved cast their votes for Mr Reagan.

Even on unemployment, a traditionally Democratic issue, Mr Carter fared badly. Among voters who saw that as their most important concern, he was rarely ahead of Mr Reagan.

The Democrats retained control of the House of Representatives by a thin margin, their ranks badly depleted as Republicans, propelled by Mr Ronald Reagan's landslide victory, piled up substantial Congressional gains.

Republicans' Control over Senate: Mr Reagan also helped his Republican Party to win control of the U.S. Senate for the first time in 26 years.

Mr Reagan's victory was surprising because of its landslide in what was anticipated to be a close race; it was a smashing victory for his fellow conservatives. Liberal members of President Carter's Democratic Party in the House of Representatives and the Senate were thrown out in favour of conservative members of Mr Reagan's Republican Party.

This means a popular mandate for a more domestic-oriented Congress, both a legislature and an executive that can be expected to be a far more hard-line and confrontational towards the Soviet Union and less concerned with the Third World of developing nations and their problems.

The tentative totals give Mr Reagan 51% to Mr Carter's 41% of the actual popular vote, and 462 to 45 in the winner take-all electoral votes, the State-by-

State tally which, under the U.S. Constitution, count for victory.

As often happens in such an overwhelming vote for the President himself, his party candidates for Congress are swept in on his "coat-tails" by Americans voting for a straight party ticket. The Senate had only one-third of its 100 seats up for election and was not expected to lose its 59 to 41 Democratic Party majority, but it apparently did.

In the 435-member House of Representatives, with all the seats at stake, the old Democratic Party majority of 276 to 159 was whittled down by at least 30 seats, which will mean that the Democrats will have far less control in any legislative vote.

Reasons for Carter's Defeat: Still the President until January 20, Mr Carter attributed his fall chiefly to the Iran hostage crisis; the big increases in the prices of OPEC oil, and inflation. He also blamed what he called uncontrollable world events and discontent over the Cuban refugees in the U.S.A.

Confidence in him began to erode early in his term when he was accused of profiting from transactions by Mr Bert Lance, his former budget director, and when one of his closest aides, Mr Hamilton Jordan, was accused of using drugs.

Reminded by reporters that the public seemed to have viewed him as weak and indecisive, the President said: "I have never avoided the ultimate responsibility for making difficult decisions."

In the next two and a half months he would remain in charge of the White House, he promised to try to resolve the hostage crisis, confer with the Israeli Prime Minister, Mr Menachem Begin, on West Asia developments and also receive the Japanese Prime Minister, Mr Zenko Suzuki, who would be

coming on an official visit.

The President, who said during the campaign that Mr Reagan was a warmonger whose call for the withdrawal of the SALT-II treaty would lead to a confrontation with the Soviet Union, now thought the President-elect would do all he could to preserve peace.

Russia's Satisfaction: The Soviet Union, responding to the election of Mr Ronald Reagan as the President of the United States, said on November 7 that it was ready for a normalisation and development of relations on the basis of peaceful co-existence.

The comment in a Tass report bitterly criticised President Carter, asserting (in the same terms as a parallel comment by Moscow Radio) that his rejection by the voters was largely due to his "anti-Soviet policies".

Initial Moscow reaction clearly reflected a grim satisfaction over the landslide against Mr Carter for whom an earlier Soviet suspicion had lately developed into profound hostility. The first response from Soviet insiders reflecting the official thinking suggested the Kremlin would not be unhappy over Mr Reagan's victory, despite his strong anti-Communist views. The Soviet spokesmen mentioned Mr Carter's initiative in sponsoring a boycott of last summer's Moscow Olympic Games, a move which particularly angered the Kremlin as one of the elements which caused huge damage to his prestige.

But it added that the greatest harm to him was caused by his turn in foreign policy from a course towards detente to the whipping up of international tension and to dangerous doctrines in the sphere of the use of nuclear weapons.

The American voters, the Soviet agency said, "rejected

his provocative position in relation to detente, showing their understanding of the indisputable fact that today no problems can be solved by means of an arms race."

Tass said the Soviet Union "has always stood for normalising and developing Soviet-American relations" on the basis of the 1972 declaration signed by Mr Brezhnev and President Nixon.

In Cairo, President Sadat paid an emotional tribute to Mr Carter amid indications of Egyptian unhappiness over the outcome of the elections. In a televised speech, he heaped praise on Mr Carter for his role in the U.S.-sponsored West Asia peace drive and for building up relations between Cairo and Washington.

His speech only once mentioned Mr Reagan: "I congratulate Mr Reagan for his people's confidence and I want to say that the peace processes will always need the American role."

Mr Sadat, who had a close personal relationship with President Carter, went on to say he was convinced the American people, the U.S. Senate and Congress were committed to the Camp David peace process for West Asia.

Terms for Release of Hostages

The Iranian Majlis (Parliament) on November 2 approved the four conditions set by Ayatollah Khomeini for the release of the 52 American hostages. The approval came on the 365th day of their captivity.

Earlier, a Special Parliamentary Commission recommended a basically unchanged version of the four conditions laid down by Ayatollah Khomeini. These were: the United States should promise not to interfere in Iran's affairs; should unblock frozen Iranian assets in U.S. hands; drop financial

claims against Iran, and return the property of the late Shah of Iran.

The Commission proposed that if the U.S.A. met the conditions, all the 52 hostages should be released. If Washington only met some conditions, only some hostages should be freed. If the U.S.A. did not submit to Iran's conditions, the Iranian judicial system would carry out its duties and punish the hostages.

The main elaboration on Ayatollah Khomeini's conditions came in respect of the Shah's wealth. This spoke of returning the Shah's property and recognising measures by the Iranian Government to exercise its sovereignty for expropriation of the former monarch's assets and those of his close relatives whose property belonged to Iran.

On legal claims, the Commission called for the dropping of all economic and financial decisions against Iran, and the implementation of all legal and administrative measures for the cancellation of all claims by the U.S. Government and American companies against Iran. President Carter sent a secret message to Iran, accepting Ayatollah Khomeini's four demands.

The militants holding the hostages called on the Iranian people to stage a mass anti-American demonstration in front of the U.S. Embassy in Teheran. A programme would be held inside the "Spies Nest", afterwards. The captors said the grand demonstration would "prove our mobilisation and the strength and greatness of Islam in order to slap this great Satan."

U.S. Arms Aid for Iran

Despite the posture of neutrality in the Iraq-Iran war, the U.S.A. recently sent a large quantity of aid material, possibly including weapons and ammu-

tion, to Iran through Turkey, according to a report from Kuwait on November 3.

In a despatch from Washington a newspaper quoted a "high ranking American official" as saying the U.S. Administration has not stuck to its declared neutrality in the Iraq-Iran war, as it recently sent huge quantities of aid materials to Iran through Turkey. The aid was sent from U.S. bases in Turkey by 25 trucks to the city of the Tabriz, in north-western Iran, near the Turkish border, then to Teheran. The assistance was trucked under the label of "medical aid".

The despatch of American aid was apparently intended to serve as a goodwill gesture and reflected America's preparedness to supply Iran with weapons and spare parts.

The U.S. administration has ordered American arms makers to resume production of military hardware ordered by the former Shah and which were embargoed after the Islamic revolution.

Despite official denials by Damascus, Syria appears to be giving military help to Iran in its war with Iraq, the "Financial Times" reported. The daily's correspondent in Syria said two Iranian air force Boeing 747s were seen at Damascus airport while diplomats saw an Iran Air Jumbo jet being loaded with cases which could have contained arms and ammunition.

American military spare parts have been diverted to Iran instead of being delivered to Israel, "The Observer" reported on the same day (November 3).

Iran Rejects Peace Moves

Following an unexpected mobilisation of internal resources which enabled it to check Iraq's aggressive tactics, Iran on November 9 categorically rejected all efforts being made for mediation, arbitration and a ceasefire by individuals or re-

representatives of different governments to end the war. The Iranian Foreign Ministry emphasised the necessity for the continuation of this war "until the complete removal of aggression."

Thus there is a virtual deadlock and a stalemate in the Iran-Iraq war, with only occasional clashes and damage to oil tanks and refineries, especially in Abadan (Iran's largest and world-famous complex). Both countries are, in fact, recklessly destroying each other's oil resources. Iranian sources declared that acceptance of any plan for a cease-fire will not benefit Iran or the Islamic movement of this nation and of any other nation of the region "as long as the aggressor has not been punished for the casualties it has inflicted on both the Muslim nations of Iran and Iraq."

The war, Iran feels, is a heaven-sent trial for testing and reinforcing perseverance and the sincerity of the Muslims in the region and in other nations of the world. Seven weeks of heroic resistance by the Iranian people had "caused the Baathist Government of Iraq to realise the gravity of its mistake, finding itself on the edge of complete defeat and destruction. That is why they are desperately trying to send foreign mediators to Iran to obtain a cease-fire."

The Iranian Ministry claimed that even the people of Iraq have understood the "inhuman realities of this war."

Indo-Soviet Call for End to War: The Soviet Union and India had earlier called for a speedy settlement of the Iran-Iraq conflict through peaceful means. The call came in a statement issued at the end of President Sanjiva Reddy's visit to the Soviet Union. The two countries expressed their confidence that "peaceful States have enough possibilities not to allow further aggravation of the

international situation, to restore the climate of detente and co-operation in the world." They noted the significance of the proposal on holding a summit meeting of leaders from all areas of the world aimed at eliminating seats of tension and preventing war.

The statement said India and the Soviet Union attached great significance to advancing and implementing concrete initiatives in sphere of detente, disarmament and maintaining a constructive dialogue among States with different social systems. The two countries expressed their resolve to continue co-operating in the interests of consolidating defence and ensuring international security. They noted that the scope for bilateral co-operation in different spheres had considerably widened in recent years based on their long-term agreement for co-operation.

USSR-Syria Pact

Earlier, the Soviet Union took a major step in October towards re-asserting its influence in West Asia by signing a 20-year treaty of friendship and co-operation with Syria. The Soviet President, Mr Leonid I. Brezhnev and his Syrian counterpart, Mr Hafez Assad, signed the pact in Kremlin shortly after the Arab leader arrived in Moscow on an official visit.

Syrian sources in Damascus reported before Mr Assad's departure that the impending treaty would include military provisions. These sources described the document as one of "exceptional importance" and different from the Soviet friendship pacts with other Third World nations. The Soviet Union had been seeking a bilateral pact with Syria since the early 1970s.

The Soviets had been largely excluded from a major role in West Asia since Egypt's expulsion of the Soviet advisers in 1972.

New Life for U.N. Relief Body

The U.N. General Assembly has prolonged the life of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) until mid-1984 and appealed urgently for funds to meet the unit's \$ 47 million deficit.

The Assembly on November 3 asked the U.N. Secretary-General and other authorities to study ways and means of creating a U.N. sponsored university in Jerusalem for Palestinian refugees.

By a vote of 96-3 (Israel, U.S.A. and Canada), with 16 abstentions (including the Scandinavian countries and members of the European Economic Community), the Assembly adopted a resolution branding as null and void any restrictions on the return of people forced to leave their homes since the 1967 war between Israel and the Arab countries.

Meanwhile, a U.N. report on Israeli-occupied territories says human rights violations against Arab inhabitants are increasing as Israel pursues its settlement policy. The report was prepared for the Secretary-General, Dr Kurt Waldheim, by a special committee composed of representatives from Sri Lanka, Yugoslavia and Senegal, and completed in early October.

Kampuchea Crisis Unresolved

There is no sign yet of a solution being found of the Kampuchea tangle, with China, Vietnam and Thailand continuing to adopt rigid positions. China insists on complete withdrawal of Vietnamese troops, but the latter seem to have decided to stay put.

The visit of General Prem Tinsulanonda, Prime Minister of Thailand, to Beijing (Peking) at the end of October brought out the basic difference in the

Thai and Chinese attitudes towards the solution of the Kampuchean problem.

Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Chinese Prime Minister, emphasised to General Prem that Vietnamese troops must be withdrawn from Kampuchea before a settlement can be agreed on by a conference of interested parties. But Mr Zhao has not made it clear (probably deliberately) whether China expects a complete pull-out of Vietnamese occupation forces as a precondition for an international conference, or whether it feels that withdrawal could take place simultaneously with the conference.

This would allow for a complete withdrawal by Vietnam to coincide with elections and the establishment of an independent Kampuchean Government. The Thais, on the other hand, are understood to feel a *fait accompli* in Kampuchea and that a political solution dependent on a complete troop withdrawal is unrealistic. Bangkok is also worried about the security of its border with Kampuchea, which has become the home of thousands of refugees and the scene of small but frequent armed clashes involving Thai Khmer and Vietnamese troops.

From the Thai point of view there is no virtue in curtailing Vietnam's expansionist policies in Indonesia if the alternative is Chinese domination of the region.

China will almost certainly participate in an international conference on Kampuchea if Vietnam shows goodwill by withdrawing more than a mere token force. But, as Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the deposed Khmer monarch who lives in exile has pointed out, withdrawal of most or all of the Vietnamese occupation forces would simply put the country at the mercy of the Khmer Rouge whose battered remnants are still an effec-

tive fighting force if not opposed by battle-seasoned Vietnamese troops.

Few Governments would want to see the bloody rule of terror of the Khmer Rouge reinstated in Kampuchea, and China's support for them remains a weak link in her Indo-China policy.

According to Prince Sihanouk, a substantial international force would be needed to preserve order in Kampuchea while elections were held. But there is no guarantee that the elections would produce a government strong enough to hold the country together.

The present regime of Mr Heng Samrin in Phnom Penh has the virtue of pursuing relatively benign internal policies but it is propped up by Vietnam precisely because it is not strong enough to cope with the Khmer Rouge on its own.

China's leaders seem to feel that the Indo-China situation is a direct threat to Thailand—having virtually taken over the former "Domino Theory" of the Americans.

Russia's Record Sea Power

While the U.S.A.'s sea power has been declining, that of the Russians has increased to a record level. In fact, for the first time since the Russian Revolution, Moscow now has a growing capability to cut sea-lanes vital to the United States' economic and political survival. This was conceded by American naval strategists on November 5.

Rear-Admiral Robert J. Hanks, who was Director of Strategic Plans and Policy for the U.S. Navy Department when he retired in 1977, writes in a new study that while the U.S. naval strength has undergone a rapid decline over the past two decades, Soviet Sea power has steadily increased.

Admiral Hanks concludes in a monograph entitled "The unnoticed challenge: Soviet strategy and the global choke points" that, to meet the Soviet naval challenge, the U.S. Navy must be rebuilt and the political and economic strength mobilised.

Soviet warships and petrol aircraft now routinely cross the North Atlantic from northern and Baltic bases to Cuba. Also, the Soviet navy is well established along the West African coasts in ports such as Conakry, Pointe Noire, Luanda and Mocamedes.

This means, according to Admiral Hanks, that the USSR today has the naval forces and operating bases necessary to interdict every significant shipping lane in the North and South Atlantic Oceans as well as all those in the Caribbean Sea.

The Soviet Navy has continued to ply the waters adjacent to the Horn of Africa with its access to excellent harbour and shore facilities left behind at Aden by the British. Though it lost its Somalian base at Berbera, Moscow surely considers Ethiopia as a perfect staging area for thrusts into all of Central Africa. The prime Soviet objective in the Arab Gulf area appears to be to draw a noose around the Arabian Peninsula.

In the Indian Ocean, the study reveals, the permanent Soviet naval presence that began when the British withdrew East of Suez, marked the beginning of a close co-operation between India and the Soviet Union.

N-Powers' Tactics

A detailed study of nuclear weapons and the strategies adopted by the various nuclear powers, conducted by a U.N. team, has resulted in the exposure of many unpublished manoeuvres. The study proves that the big-power policies contain the seed of proliferation of

nuclear weapons. The attitude of those nuclear weapon States which emphasise only the need to curb horizontal proliferation while advancing political and military "realities" as pretexts for the slow space of curbing the nuclear arms race is highlighted; it does not contribute to the building up of mutual confidence in the international community.

The N.P.T. conference (August 11 to September 6) had collapsed even before the study was released. The findings challenge the conventional wisdom propagated by nuclear-weapon Powers and their allies. But this document is going to feature increasingly in the disarmament negotiations and give the developing world a much-needed conceptual framework to rebut the plausible strategic doctrines propounded by the military-academic media complex of the industrialised nations. The document extends powerful support for the resolution which India moved in the General Assembly in December, 1978, demanding that the use of, and threat of the use of, nuclear weapons be declared a violation of the U.N. Charter and a crime against humanity. The resolution was adopted by 103 votes against 18 (NATO countries and their allies).

The report examines the doctrine of deterrence and finds that the argument regarding the stability of the balance puts the proponents of deterrence in great difficulty. In a sense the doctrine is fiction built upon various hypothetical scenarios of nuclear war and have, therefore, grown too complicated.

The report raises a series of fundamental questions on the relationship between the paper doctrines of nuclear strategists and the reality. Is it possible to distinguish between a counter-force attack aimed at destroying military targets and a

counter strike aimed at weakening the industrial capacity of a State?

All these questions raise serious doubts about the possibilities of keeping a nuclear war under control and within limits prescribed by doctrines. The report also questions the automatic linkage between civil nuclear technology and horizontal proliferation. It draws attention to the conclusion of the recent international nuclear fuel cycle evaluation study that fuel cycle facilities for a civil programme are not the most efficient route to acquire materials for the manufacture of nuclear weapons.

Karmal's "Brain-washing" in Russia

The Afghan leader, Mr Babrak Karmal, left Moscow for home on November 4 after a 20-day stay in Russia during which he won pledges of continued support for his Marxist Government from the Kremlin. The official part of Mr Karmal's visit lasted nine days. He also visited Leningrad and the Georgian capital. After that he spent the time "resting" and has undergone medical tests at a clinic outside Moscow.

A Tass news agency report said that Mr Karmal, who came to power in a coup last December marked by the entry of thousands of Soviet troops into Afghanistan, underwent "a course of treatment". However an Afghan official denied that Mr Karmal had received medical attention for any physical ailments, saying that he had simply undergone a medical check-up.

Pakistan on November 3 indirectly accused Russia of trying to annex the Wakhan Salient in a bid to deprive China of any direct access to Afghanistan and make its own border touch north Pakistan.

The Government-owned Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) carried an Islamabad story, quoting reliable information received from across the border to say that Russia had been quietly busy over the last six months in annexing the Salient.

The move, it said, was aimed at getting a strategic edge over China and Pakistan and give the Russians a firm hand to consolidate their position in Afghanistan for a permanent stay there.

The process of annexation being carried out through large-scale induction of Russian troops belonging to the adjoining Tajakhistan province was in an advanced stage of completion.

With annexation in view, the Soviets have also been gradually improving the communication infrastructure leading to the Wakhan Salient from Russian territory.

They found the task easy because of insignificant insurgency in the area. The new Soviet move had escaped world attention in its preoccupation with reports of resistance in the rest of Afghanistan.

Russia Warns Poland

Russia on November 10 warned that "strikes and abnormal working" in Poland would increase tension in the country and delay the achievement of economic objectives. Latey, labour and trade union unrest in Poland has caused much concern in Moscow. The Poles have won the right to form trade union—an unusual right in a Communist, especially Russian-dominated State.

Reiterating the terms of a communique released by the Polish authorities in Warsaw, the Soviet party paper "Pravda" said that only self-sacrificial work

would enable Poland to overcome its current difficulties.

The Poles must unite to ensure "normal" work in each enterprise to help bring in the harvest and "discuss (problems) in a calm and amicable atmosphere." Polish authorities had demanded that local authorities should take urgent measures to ensure a return to normalisation of socio-economic life, liquidate bureaucracy and put an end to "violations of the law".

Tass news agency meanwhile confirmed in an unusual report the holding of joint Soviet-Polish military manoeuvres but failed to indicate where or when they took place. The report was noteworthy since only large-scale multinational Warsaw Pact manoeuvres are usually publicised. Russia has two tank divisions, plus air force units, in Poland. All Soviet units there usually keep a low profile.

The Polish Communist leader, Mr Stanislaw Kania, met President Brezhnev recently regarding his efforts "to stabilise the situation" in Poland.

The report also quoted Mr Brezhnev as expressing confidence that Poland could solve its "acute" economic and political problems.

Chinese Fighters for Pak

China's latest pro-Pakistan and anti-Indian gesture was made on November 8 when it was learnt that Pakistan has started receiving the latest jet fighter aircraft and modified ground-to-air missiles from China as part of a new deal signed with that country. In previous years also, China has been arming Pakistan in vital sectors and establishing close military contacts.

The first batch of the fighter aircraft, code-named by NATO as "Fantan" has already arrived

in Pakistan, according to the latest reports. Pakistan will receive three squadrons of "Fantan" fighters to re-equip some of the MIG-19 squadrons of its air force. The deal was signed during the visit of the Pakistan air force chief, Air Chief Marshal Anwar Mohammed Shamim, to Beijing (Peking) in June when he led a big P.A.F. delegation to that country.

The fighters, described in China as "Chaenchi-6", are being built at the Chinese aircraft factory in Shenyang and the deliveries to Pakistan will be completed by mid-1981.

The "Fantan" is being inducted in to the P.A.F. as a strike-fighter and has a range of 1230 nautical miles. With two additional fuel tanks its range can be increased to 1470 nautical miles. The plane has a combat radius of 460 miles with external fuel tanks.

The fighter has a Mach 1.35 performance (1440 kilometres an hour speed) and is considered by defence experts as a considerable improvement on MIG-19 which Pakistan wants to replace now. All the disadvantages of the MIG-19 have been overcome in the "Fantan".

The three squadrons of the "Fantan" for the P.A.F. will comprise 65 aircraft. Pakistan has a total of 140 MIG-19s which are now divided between Peshawar and Sargodha.

Pakistan will be the first country outside China to receive these strike fighters. North Korea is already pressing China to supply the "Fantan" jets but no decision will be taken till the time the deliveries to Pakistan are completed.

The "Fantan" has given defence aviation experts several surprises. The plane has no sign of a nose radome. The new nose section obviously con-

tains avionics but is of all-metal construction.

Western intelligence refers to the "Fantan" as the F-9 but, according to Chinese sources, the correct designation is still F-6.

U.N. Vote for S. Africa's Boycott

An overwhelming majority of U.N. Member-States on November 8 voted for a total boycott of South Africa. This is the latest in a long series of U.N. resolutions against the white, distinctly racist regime of South Africa which has denied basic rights to the large black population and treated it like inferior beings in pursuance of its apartheid policy. But the resolution is hardly likely to make any notable difference in practice.

The vote, 91 in favour, 16 against and 26 abstaining, was taken by a committee of the General Assembly which seemed certain to endorse it at a later date.

The resolution urged, in particular, Britain, the U.S.A., West Germany, France, Japan, Belgium, Israel and Italy to end all collaboration with South Africa, whose racial policies have been repeatedly condemned in the U.N. and other international forums.

All States were asked to stop investing in or lending funds to South Africa, and to ensure that the export of oil to the racially segregated republic ceased.

The resolution condemned the exploitation and plundering of the natural resources of Namibia (South-West Africa) by South Africa.

Government by Ordinance

Desperate situations, it is said, demand desperate situations, but in India today the Central Government seems to be more desperate to make a show of action than the situation warrants. The impression it has created by some of its actions, such as the issuing of ordinances, is that it is anxious somehow to erase the stigma of "non-performance" which has been closely associated with it during the past 10 months—and for perfectly valid reasons. In the span of seven weeks the Government has issued three ordinances (and who knows more may come on some pretext or other?). In the winter session of Parliament the Government has to get these ordinances replaced by Bills. These ordinances are the National Security Ordinance issued on September 22 providing for preventive detention, the Criminal Law Amendment Ordinance issued on September 23, the Payment of Bonus Ordinance issued on August 21, and last but not least the ordinance issued on October 15 nationalising Maruti Limited.

The basic issue whether these ordinances were justified by the circumstances and whether they are, to a large extent, a misuse of power, needs to be closely examined. Clause 1(I) of Article 123 provides: "If at any time, except when both Houses of Parliament are in session, the President is satisfied that circumstances exist which render it necessary for him to take immediate action, he may promulgate such ordinances as the circumstances appear to him

to require." Again, clause (2) of the same article provides that the ordinance has the same force as an Act passed by Parliament.

The ordinance so promulgated must be laid before both Houses of Parliament immediately after it reassembles. If Parliament disapproves it, the ordinance lapses, and it will automatically cease to operate at the end of six weeks from the reassembly of Parliament. Since the maximum interval permissible by law between two sessions of Parliament is six months, it means that the maximum duration of an ordinance (unless previously terminated by Parliament) can be six months and six weeks. Of course the President may withdraw an ordinance at any time.

By all accounts, the President of India, under the Constitution, has been given wide powers of legislation when Parliament is not in session. A prominent commentator has stated that "in no country with a written Constitution and the parliamentary form of government is the Chief of State the repository of such prodigious legislative powers." This power is exercised through ordinances for issuing which there is no limitation or restriction of sphere, time or application, except those laid down in clause (2) of Article 123. The ordinance issuing power of the President has been virtually copied from the Government of India Act, 1935. It is interesting to note that although the Constitution of India is framed basically on the British pattern, the

chief executive (the Sovereign) in Britain does not exercise any such power, and Britain has never suffered in any way because of the absence of this power.

Nor, it may be stated, is the ordinance-issuing power granted to any of the Heads of State of the other members of the British Commonwealth (formerly Dominions of the British Empire). In the U.S.A. all legislative power is exercised by the Congress and it cannot authorise anyone to issue ordinances. Moreover, the courts in India cannot question the *bona fides* of the President's action in issuing ordinances. Nor is he required by the Constitution to explain his action or to give reasons in detail why he has felt it necessary to issue a particular ordinance. Generally, a reason or two are briefly given, and that is all. The courts can only examine, if called upon to do so on someone's appeal, whether an ordinance is within the scope of the President's powers.

According to the Constitution, the President has to be satisfied that a situation exists which requires an ordinance to be issued. The President's satisfaction is, in effect, meaningless because he is required to act in accordance with the advice of his Council of Ministers, and it is, therefore, the Central Ministry which decides when an ordinance is to be issued and on which subject. Thus every ordinance is a decision of the Council of Ministers, not of the President personally. It is true,

however, that the Council of Ministers' satisfaction cannot be a substitute for the satisfaction of the President. The President can, theoretically, act in accordance with his own judgement, but such a situation has never arisen in this country, nor is it likely to arise because the President is for all practical purposes a mouthpiece of the Ministry, which in turn represents the majority party in Parliament. Thus all the ordinances issued in recent weeks by President Sanjiva Reddy are expressions of the Government headed by Mrs Indira Gandhi and her party, the Congress (I).

The ordinance-making power vested in the President is defended by Constitution-makers as an Emergency power necessary to meet extraordinary situations requiring urgent action at a time when Parliament is not in session. A few cases apart, the ordinance-making power has, however, been used for political objectives and indicates a misuse of government authority. The arbitrary manner in which the Central Government has been using this power is open to objection. On September 22 the President promulgated the National Security Ordinance to enable the Government to detain any person to prevent him from acting against the defence or security of the country.

The ordinance also empowered the Central or any State Government to detain a person to prevent him from acting in any manner prejudicial to the security of the State or the maintenance of public order or supplies or essential services. The maximum period of detention will be 12 months, but of course the Government can revoke or modify the order at any time. An official claimed that the ordinance contained sufficient safeguards to prevent misuse and to ensure justice to

the person thus detained. Advisory boards are to be constituted according the advice of the Chief Justice of the High Court of the State concerned. The board will have authority to decide whether the detention should continue.

According to an official explanation, the ordinance has been deemed necessary because of communal riots, the emergence of secessionist trends in certain parts of the country, the caste conflicts, social tensions, extremist activities, atrocities on Scheduled Castes and other minorities and weaker sections of the society, besides the growing tendency among some sections of the people to start agitations in certain parts of the country. It is stated that certain elements pose a serious challenge to the administration and sometimes even hold society to ransom. The Government has, therefore, decided to arm itself with adequate powers to deal effectively with anti-national elements and developments.

The country's Opposition parties have reason to fear that the new drastic powers which the Government has assumed will be used for political purposes that is against the ruling party's opponents. In fact a critic has described the new ordinance as "Emergency through the backdoor". The ordinance can be used even to check legitimate trade union activity and labour strikes. Unfortunately, some kind of detention law has existed in the country for the past many years.

Earlier, on August 21, the Government issued an ordinance providing for *status quo* in respect of bonus payments to labour; it prescribed a stable and permanent scheme for payment of bonus of a minimum of 8·33 per cent and a maximum of 20 per cent. The statutory

minimum bonus is to be paid irrespective of profit or loss by an industry or factory in the organised sector. The ordinance maintains the ceiling of Rs. 750 and the maximum limit of Rs. 1600 for entitlement of bonus for salaried people. The Government hoped that the ordinance will put to an end all controversies regarding bonus since the pattern for future is also clear. This rate is meant to be a permanent arrangement and the obligation on the employer is clear. Agreements between the employers and the employees can still be negotiated.

Soon after the National Security Ordinance (on September 23) came an ordinance to amend the Criminal Procedure Code, though it did not attract much attention and was regarded as largely non-controversial. It vests more powers in the executive in order to effectively deal with habitual criminals and those creating enmity between different groups and communities. The grant of bail to habitual offenders has been made more difficult.

But the most blatant misuse of the ordinance-making power was the ordinance issued on October 14 nationalising Maruti Limited (the small car company promoted by the late Mr Sanjay Gandhi) "to utilise the available infrastructure, increase the production of motor vehicles and generate employment. The ordinance, named the Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings Ordinance, 1980, covers the various undertakings of the Maruti Company whose liquidation proceedings are pending in the Punjab and Haryana High Court. The ordinance provides for the payment of Rs. 4·34 crores as compensation to the company's shareholders. Among the other reasons given for this sudden and far-reaching decision (described by critics as "a fraud on the electorate and

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India's Future Set-up: The Vital Debate

Addressing a two-day All-India Conference of Lawyers in Delhi on October 25, 1980, Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, called for a national debate on whether the parliamentary system of government should continue or whether any other form of government would suit India better. Since the only alternative being considered at certain levels is the Presidential system, the national debate and the choice will be between the existing Parliamentary system (on the British model) and the Presidential system, as it prevails in the U.S.A. and France, to name only two outstanding examples.

To many critics, and even to countless dispassionate observers, Mrs Gandhi's suggestion is, in effect, a forerunner of the Presidential system and an authoritarian set-up since the Parliamentary system, in her view, is unsuitable for our masses and needs to be replaced by a more effective regime to suit the conditions prevailing in this country.

It is recalled that a similar debate was started shortly before the Emergency (from June 25, 1977, to March, 1977), and it was widely believed that Mrs Gandhi was about to assume wide powers in order to become the real and effective ruler of the country. This time also, several politicians have already warned the country against the shape of things to come.

On the very day that Mrs Gandhi made the suggestion for a debate, Mr Madhu Limaye, the Lok Dal leader, urged the

country's intelligentsia to protest against what he called the insidious attempts to change the parliamentary form of government in the country into a Presidential system and he urged Mrs Gandhi to abandon "this slippery course".

Mr Jawaharlal Nehru, by common consent, loved the cut and thrust of parliamentary debate and tried in his own way to maintain the prestige of parliamentary institutions, but Mrs Gandhi's habitual critics suspect that she does not like Parliament and that her attitude towards this supposedly supreme and sovereign legislature "alternates between contempt and distrust". Further, it is believed that she is anxious to liberate herself from the accountability to the elected representatives of the people who constitute Parliament, even though her party, the Congress (I), commands a huge majority in the Lok Sabha. The moves she makes now and then, and the support to the Presidential system her loyal colleagues assure, are all part of a subtle plan to introduce the Presidential system of government in which she would be all powerful; there would be no legislatures to bother about and only a handful of her loyal and submissive party colleagues to assist her in governing the country.

Unfortunately for Mrs Gandhi and her loyal set of supporters, the All-India Conference of Lawyers did not back the move for a switchover to the Presidential system, although some prominent office-bearers, including the President of the

conference, tried to create the impression, through a paper, that the conference favoured the Presidential system.

The basic questions are: Has the Constitution of India, which was drafted with such meticulous care by a body of able and talented leaders failed the country? Does the Constitution need to be changed? Is it really outdated and obsolete? Is the parliamentary system itself unsuitable for India? It may be mentioned that in his Independence Day message to the country in August, 1979 (when the Congress (I) and Mrs Gandhi were out of office and virtually in the wilderness), President Sanjiva Reddy stated: "The time is ripe for enlightened public opinion in the mainstream of our national life to consider the steady and cumulative deterioration of standards in public life and public morality in all its aspects and review the provisions of the Constitution in the light of our experience of working it over the last three decades."

This makes it clear that even persons in high office, and not members of the ruling party alone, favour a review of the Constitution with a view to making it more suitable for meeting the country's growing needs and complex problems. Even so, the matter has become a party issue in many respects. For instance, the Bharatiya Janata Party leader, Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee, on October 26 characterised Mrs Gandhi's latest call for a national debate on the Presidential form of government as a clever gambit to

divert the people's attention from the failure of her Government on all fronts."

The Founding Fathers of the Constitution are known to have discussed all the alternatives, and the merits and demerits of the Presidential type and had then opted for the parliamentary system as the most suitable for India. Nothing has happened since then, so the argument runs, to warrant a radical change in the system of government. Six general elections have been held in an eminently successful manner. In fact, many of the Opposition leaders suspect that the advocacy of the Presidential system by Mrs Gandhi and her flatterers indicates a sinister design—to pave the way for a dictatorship, without officially describing it as such or giving it such a name. Before 1977, many of Mrs Gandhi's supporters had already started talking of a "limited dictatorship", though her critics sought to expose her supposed designs for establishing an "authoritarian stranglehold over the country".

Mr Nani A. Palkhivala, India's leading Constitutional expert, has, in the past three years or so, made highly informative and critical comments on the Indian Constitution. The treatment meted out to the Constitution by the Government of India, he has said, is "a tale of folly, corruption and negligence. It is not the Constitution which has failed the people; but it is our chosen representatives who have failed the Constitution."

A day before the Prime Minister suggested a review of the Constitution (on October 25, 1980) Mr Palkhivala said in an article entitled "The advantages of the Presidential system" that if India chooses the Presidential system of government, it must be one which is "in total conformity with the philosophy of freedom and liberalism underlying our Constitution...It should

preserve and promote the Fundamental Rights and be the very antithesis of an authoritarian State." He thinks that such a system can be introduced in India by a valid amendment of Article 386 of the Constitution without altering the basic structure of the Constitution. But he also stated that the commodity which is in great shortage in the country is character. The Presidential system has many advantages but it is no substitute for national character. He also felt that India would have to evolve her own model of Presidential form of government after studying the U.S., French and Sri Lanka models and their actual functioning.

Four distinct advantages of the Presidential system have been enumerated by the advocates of this system. First, it enables the Head of State (the President) to have a Cabinet of outstanding competence and integrity since the choice of Ministers is not restricted to Parliament. This is especially true of India today because Mrs Gandhi has very little talent at her disposal in Parliament, most of the M.P.s. being mediocre in ability and hardly capable of Cabinet posts, but talented people are available outside Parliament. Most of the intellectuals do not like to contest elections and face the rough and tumble of street politics, though they would not decline to accept high responsibility when called upon to do so.

Mr Palkhivala himself, a former ambassador to the U.S.A., would make an excellent Law Minister, though it is doubtful whether, in view of his consistent stand against Mrs Gandhi's authoritarian ways, he would like to accept office in her Cabinet. There are several other examples of talented men and experts who are not M.P.s. "A wise President can substitute excellence for the deadwood which passes for a government today."

Secondly, if Cabinet Ministers are not popularly elected members and do not hold office only so long as they enjoy the confidence of Parliament, they would not be required to adopt cheap, populist measures and play to the gallery—tactics which cost the country heavily in the long run. Thirdly, the Presidential system would enable the Ministers to concentrate on the job of administering the country instead of wasting their time in touring their constituencies, pleasing their voters and playing politics round the year. At present much of the Ministers' time is wasted in catering to the wishes and demands of their party pals and their constituents. Fourthly, the Presidential system would put an end to the evil of defections and desertions by legislators for the loaves and fishes of office and the hunger for power. Toppling campaigns would end.

But it is not roses all the way for the Presidential system. Among the dangers are: the facility it provides for a power-obsessed and authoritarian President to become a virtual dictator; the serious danger to the people's Fundamental Rights and privileges which become easy casualties when an all-powerful President, surrounded by a set of sycophants and flatterers, takes office. The Sri Lanka experiment with the Presidential form of government is a lesson.

Besides, the Presidential system does not pose a threat to democracy only in countries where most of the people are literate and are strong enough to assert their rights and hold an authoritarian leader in check. This is not so in India where the danger of dictatorship lurks all the time behind the facade of democracy because of the hero worship, the massive illiteracy and the gnawing poverty. The

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Problems of Economic Development in the Third World

Thirty years' experience and experimentation of economic development in the developing countries have yielded new ideas and strategies on how to solve their crucial problems. What are the precise problems? What alternative strategies should be adopted? These issues are discussed here in the light of recent thinking on the subject.

—Editor

I. Development concept:

The traumatic events leading to the liquidation of the colonial rule in many countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America (called third world countries) having almost two-thirds of the global population unleashed a surging tide of demand for socio-economic development after World War II.

Dominated by Western ideas, development was considered to mark "a sustained and substantial increase in *per capita* income". We were taught to take care of our GNP (Gross National Product), since this would automatically take care of poverty by percolating to the vulnerable strata of society. This, actually, did not happen. At least experience in the mixed economies, including India, has manifestly shown it to be a wrong approach. Mrs Joan Robinson rightly says "Growth in wealth is not the same thing as reducing poverty". Now, growth models of the past stand as the "god that failed". We must, therefore re-define the concept and the parameters of economic growth.

Development, to quote the noted economist Mahbub Ul Haq, "is not merely a question of how much is produced but of what is produced and how it is distributed". In the developing countries where the scourge of poverty is still looming large, the "assault on

poverty" must be made *directly* and not indirectly through GNP growth. The "development goals should be expressed in terms of the progressive reduction and eventual elimination of mal-nutrition, disease, illiteracy, squalor, unemployment and inequalities". Thus, development implies total development of man and not a piecemeal amelioration of the human life. The third world countries should have not GNP-oriented growth models but poverty-oriented development strategies.

The re-orientation of the economic development concept requires a re-statement of the problems facing the third world and of the strategy for their solution.

H. Triple problems: There are three major problems confronting the developing nations (including India): poverty, unemployment and inequality in the distribution of income and wealth. Let us briefly examine each.

(a) **Poverty:** The World Bank says in the *Assault on Poverty*: "Among our century's most urgent problems is the wholly unacceptable poverty that blights the lives of some 2000 million people in more than 100 countries of the developing world. Of these billions, nearly 800 million (40 per cent) are caught up in absolute poverty, a condition of life so

limited as to prevent realization of the potential of the genes with which they were born; a condition of life so degrading as to be an insult to human dignity". There are, thus, destitute, very poor and poor people. In India, 46.33 per cent of the entire population in 1977-78 was estimated to be below the poverty line according to the draft report of the five-year plan, 1978-83 (now defunct). This percentage must have risen now due to the deterioration in the Indian economy following the gyrating inflation, the unprecedented drought in 1979 and a record foreign trade gap.

It may be pointed out that there is generally no valid formulation of the concept of poverty appropriate for all times and all regions. Poverty, therefore, has a connotation of "relative poverty", that is poverty affianced to the standard of living enjoyed by most people in the community at a specified time. India, for example, is poor relative to a developed country like the USA or West Germany.

Some economists hold that poverty and unemployment are not two separate problems. In their view unemployment is the cause of poverty and therefore the problem of poverty in the third world countries is really the problem of unemployment.

(b) *Unemployment*: The accent of the plans of developing countries has, in the past, been on maximising production or GNP. How this was achieved received little attention. Capital intensity was given precedence to labour intensity to accelerate GNP-growth. The result was that labour-intensive techniques and enterprises stood neglected. The demand for the labour force was less even as the size of the national income cake grew. In simple words, it meant more unemployment. The situation aggravated with the unabated rise in population and the working force—a characteristic of the poor countries and communities. Growth of GNP and not employment was considered as the primary objective of planned development.

The thirty years' experience and experimentation has dawned upon India and many other mixed-economies the inescapable necessity of planning for employment rather than for growth alone as done heretofore. The plan is now to be deployed as the main instrument for employment-generation; the man-power resources, which are in abundance but are going waste in the under-developed regions have to be optimally utilized like other resources. In fact, non-utilization or under-utilization of the available (or potential) resources is a mark of under-development.

The lack or absence of employment opportunities for the people poses yet another problem. It widens the income and wealth inequalities.

(c) *Economic disparities*: Estimates of the extent of inequality in India, made from time to time by various individuals/organisations, differ widely. But there is no disagreement that the growth process, over the years, has tilted the distribution of income and wealth in favour of the

rich rather than the poor. The rich-poor gap is now wider than before, particularly in the rural areas.

That inequality should co-exist with economic development is evident. W.A. Lewis asserts that economic growth is not by nature an egalitarian process. It is inequitable in its effects and may even bring about a little impoverishment. Inequality is the cause of poverty. Therefore, to reduce poverty, we must wage a war against inequities. Maddison's study discloses that the degree of inequality widened in India during the two decades, 1951-71, as the material benefits of economic progress did not filter down to the bottom half of the population. The overall effect of planned action was regressive. Poverty has thus grown with planning!

What is most discomforting is that the economic policies adopted by our governments have, in the main, benefited the rich. Even institutional reforms, like the land reform, have been so implemented as to favour the kulaks. The fiscal and financial measures to reduce inequalities have proved infructuous.

III. Alternative strategies: The foregoing suggests clearly the dire necessity to formulate and implement alternative strategies for the development of the third world countries. An additional argument for this is that self-reliance is accorded top priority. More so, if the mounting burden of price hike of petroleum and petroleum products is to be contained.

The keynote of the new plan strategies is that man is at the Centre. Some other features of the alternative strategies would be:

(i) *Maximization of employment opportunities*: This would necessitate a change in the size

and the pattern of investment, production and consumption.

(ii) *Composition of GNP*: Emphasis will have to be on increasing the output of wage-goods rather than inessential and luxury goods. P.R. Brahmanand, noted economist, claims that this will result in non-inflationary growth. At the same time, the poor and the downtrodden will have more of goods and services which enter into their consumption. Social discontentment will be reduced considerably.

(iii) *New production function models*: Investible resources will have to be diverted to uses where man-power is more in demand such as agriculture, small, cottage and village industries, constructional activities, irrigation, public works programmes etc. etc.

(iv) *Occupational re-distribution*: Labour must be shifted from low productivity uses to high productivity uses. This may even involve transfer of labour from agriculture to industries. This would also involve development of skill and expertise, apart from motivation of men to learn and adopt new avenues of employment.

(v) *Integrated rural development*: The United Nations Asian and Pacific Development Institute (UNAPDI) has stressed local level planning with accent on integrated rural development as a panacea for the ills of the countries in the ESCAP (Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific) regions.

(vi) *People's participation*: The UNAPDI underscores people's participation in the process of planning at various stages. For poverty-oriented development strategy, planning must not be for, but with, the poor majority in the rural areas. India has adopted, what is called block level planning. The annual report of the ministry of rural re-construction for 1979-80 states that IRD

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The Competition Master

Unto the Eighties

Perspective planning is as important as current planning. What is in store for us? We have travelled long since making 'tryst with destiny' on the dawn of Independence, what pitfalls on various front have been encountered and what new things can be done. This is the subject matter of this feature. —Editor

The current decade, 1980-90, has been variously described as a: "dangerous decade", "decade of decision" and "years of turbulence". We may not share the cynicism which these descriptions would imply but can we afford to ignore the challenges as well as the opportunities of the decade, if we have to generate new dynamism and multi-facet development of man so as "to shape the world's future in peace and welfare, in solidarity and dignity"? What are these challenges and opportunities? Our discussion of this proposition here will be limited to India because of space constraint.

(a) **Political front:** Ever since India made 'tryst with destiny' in 1947, our disenchantment with the political system's failure to deliver the goods has been growing. "Corruption at the top has produced disgust, scorn, defiance, shirk-work attitude, indiscipline, cheating and violence." Moral values have eroded and political leadership is in crisis. As one political scientist put it, the present situation is "a scenario of virtual disintegration of the polity. At the same time, the country provides a vast potential at all levels that could build towards a genuine alternative". We now have the choice to change, and for the better. The decline in credibility of the existing parties backed by a consistent desire on the part of the general masses to emulate democratic values and higher norms of morality/social conduct has underscored the need for re-structuring the

political system. We are however at cross roads and will take long to find a definite direction. However, the period of instability and drift must be cut down if the momentum gained on other (social, economic) fronts is not to be lost. The personality cult which has dominated the nation for well over three decades has to yield place to consolidation, integration and institutionalisation of the dispersed socio-political forces generated so far all the country over.

In the words of Rajni Kothari, noted scholar, the challenge of the eighties is to recoup from the erosion of institutions produced by the populist shortcuts of the seventies, restore the political process in its fullness and, with this in view, re-structure the distribution of regional, administrative and economic power. It is heartening that the government is making efforts, half-hearted though, to break away from the populist past.

(b) **Social scenario:** Socially, the decade is likely to witness deep convulsions. With the increased pressure on land following the unbridled growth of population, the landless labourers have risen in large proportion. At the same time, their demand for social justice has sharpened. The poor have assumed a stance of confrontation against the vested interests. Recent incidents in certain areas, such as Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu are only sympto-

matic of a more wide-spread process at work.

A notable change in the country's social scenario is the emergence of the youth power during the seventies. The youth power is like the flood water. If properly channelised, it may prove a potential source of irrigation of the parched fields to raise bumper harvests where not a blade of grass grows. But if not contained, the same flood water may turn into a deluge and work havoc. The students on the rampage pose a challenge too difficult to be met by the authorities that be. The Assam students' agitation regarding the issue of foreigners and the hold-up of the Americans as hostages by students in Iran are two soul-stirring cases of the recent past.

(c) **Economic front:** The seventies had had a sad ending for the Indian economy. There was a wide-spread recrudescence of inflation. Side by side, acute shortages of power, transport, coal, cement, vegetable oils, sugar and fuel began to manifest themselves. Deterioration was writ large. "What we are passing through", says Governor L.K. Jha, "is not a bad patch in our economic progress but a deeper social, political and moral malaise, the seeds of which lie in the mal-functioning of the economic system as a whole". Here, as the wealth accumulates, men decay. Some of the grave problems confronting us may be listed here.

(i) **Poverty:** Modern India has the dismal distinction of

carrying the largest single national mass of poverty: 309 million or about 49 per cent of population in 1977-78, according to Professor Raj Krishna.

(ii) *Unemployment*: Besides poverty, India also has the largest single national pool of unemployment—about 20 million person-years in 1978.

(iii) *Economic welfare*: India ranks miserably low in terms of almost all economic welfare indicators such as literacy, drinking water supply, life expectancy, child mortality etc.

(iv) *Economic disparities*: A very distressing phenomenon emerging after 30 years of planning is that the rich-poor gap has widened ever more, inter-regionally and intra-regionally. This is the consequence as well as the cause of India's poverty.

(d) *Future Strategy*: Such is the bleak picture of India. Can it be improved? The answer of Professor Raj Krishna to this question is in the affirmative. He even holds that "material suffering can be eradicated in less than 10 to 15 years."

There is a wide-spread consensus on the future strategy. According to the new thinking, based on our past planning experience, a high growth rate does not, by itself, guarantee reduction in poverty. The increase in the size of the national income cake does not necessarily result in a bigger slice for the poor unless its distribution is ensured on an equitable basis. The 'growth' strategy, therefore, needs to be revamped. The increase in income must be accompanied by an increase in production of goods needed by the masses, if poverty is to be banished. In other words, "it is not just the rate of growth but the content of growth which has to be attended to". The real problem is not of the size of the cake or its slices but of how many more bread are manufactured for

the poor instead of the cake for the rich out of the available wheat.

What, then, is the way out? It is certainly not to stop the production of cake nor to raise the price of bread to make it remunerative to the producer but beyond the reach of the poor consumer. The ideal solution out of the dilemma would be to provide employment and thereby increase the purchasing power of the poor. It is inadvisable to choke off consumption by price rise as it is just sufficient for the poor many to keep their body and soul together.

Resource mobilisation through the enhancement of taxes or by raising the saving-income ratios was advocated during the 1970s. But now it (taxation) is believed to have reached the saturation level. Further resort to taxation is, therefore, ill-advised. The resources can be raised by stimulating economic activity, generating more employment by labour-intensive technique and lowering the capital-output ratio through capacity utilization. The emphasis would shift from taxation to employment-generation for plan resources in eighties. The new strategy is reflected in the sixth five-year plan frame. It clearly says that "the Indian fiscal system does not have adequate built-in elasticity to generate automatically additional resources for financing higher project costs in the wake of inflation". Other sources for plan finances have to be tapped.

The balance of payments position during the 1980s is likely to pose a formidable challenge due to the continuing escalation in the price of crude and petroleum products. The recent Iraq-Iran conflict has added a new dimension to the oil import problem. India and other developing countries which imported their oil requirements from these countries are natu-

rally the most seriously affected (MSA) ones. Unless the 'war' comes to an end (for which there are no indications at the time of writing this feature), it has "dangerous portents" for India. Even if war does come to a halt immediately, it is still doubtful if either Iran or Iraq will be able to resume oil supplies to India immediately. According to the plan frame, the foreign exchange reserves will not be available after two years for meeting the plan deficits going by the present position. This means increasing dependence on foreign assistance or on oil facility available. At the same time, it underlines the need for intensifying export promotion efforts so that import requirements could be paid off. These efforts, short of 'export subsidies', will include all measures such as rupee devaluation, maximisation of inflow of remittances (which have now started dwindling) and so on.

It has been suggested that employment opportunities should be linked up with our export activities. Also, export-oriented industrial and agricultural activities will have to be given all possible facilities for expansion.

At the same time, imports will have to be restricted to the minimum without, of course, undermining the development of the economy. The import bill may be affected by many other factors, including import substitution.

All told, the prospects of attaining self-reliance, envisaged as far back as the third five-year plan and reiterated in subsequent plans, are rather bleak. In fact, the country will be faced with a mounting debt burden.

Conclusion: The world economic order is under a heavy stress and strain. Prediction is, thus, perilous. All the same, the widely-shared view is that

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ECONOMIC SCENE

- **Iraq-Iran War & Indian Economy**
- **Fund-Bank Credit Expansion**
- **Institutional Finance**

Iraq-Iran War & Indian Economy

Q. Make an assessment of the impact of the Iraq-Iran conflict on the Indian economy.

There are conflicting assessments of the impact of the Iran-Iraq war on the Indian economy. While the finance ministry and the petroleum and chemical ministry are optimistic, the Planning Commission is pessimistic of India's capability to tide over the prevailing (or future) oil crisis in the wake of the Gulf war and the oil price hike.

The optimism stems from the existing or the near-future situation of oil availability, while the pessimists take a longer-term view. An understanding of both the approaches requires study in perspective.

India imports over 15 million ton crude as follows: (all figures are in million ton) Iraq—6; Iran—5; USSR—1·7; Saudi Arabia—1·4; United Arab Emirates—1; Total—15·1. Out of this, 13 million ton (86 per cent) crude is imported from two prominent oil exporting countries, Iran and Iraq. The flare-up between the two oil giants in this region of West Asia has dramatically changed the oil prices scenario since September 22, 1980. A general glut in the petroleum products in the world markets before the outbreak of hostilities led to a steep fall in the oil prices. The industrialized nations caught the opportunity by the forelock and built

up adequate oil inventories. India followed suit but the storage and financial constraints came in the way. We have been able to stock-pile only a limited quantity of crude and petroleum products—sufficient to last for 20 days, according to the press reports. The oil inventories have, at best, saved the country from a disaster. Yet another silver lining on the dark clouds is the joint decision of four countries—Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar—to increase their oil output. Some of the OPEC (Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries) and the Western countries are keen to avert the worsening of the crisis.

Even if the immediate possibility of an oil crisis has receded (not averted) the Democles sword continues hanging over our head. The Planning Commission has estimated our crude requirements to rise from 31 million ton to 45 million ton by 1985 and 65 million ton by 1990 when the crude prices would double the prevailing level of \$ 32 to \$ 35 a barrel. This means that the balance of payment problem will become very acute. India's oil import bill¹ for 1981 will rise steeply to the staggering magnitude of Rs. 15,000 crore or "even more" (N.D. Tiwari, Union Minister for Planning and Deputy Chairman of the

1. The oil import bill of the developing countries will be more than doubled by 1990 if the pace of their domestic energy is not increased substantially.

Planning Commission) as against the estimate of Rs. 5000 crore for 1980.

In fact, we will be in throes of a deeper crisis, particularly in the event of the war continuing unabated. Fierce fighting is reported around Abadan, the site of the largest oil refinery in the Middle East (October 13).

Further, the war would reduce considerably the flow of remittances from the war-hit regions.

Many Indian workers in Iran and Iraq may be thrown out of employment. If they are repatriated or they return on their own, they will have to be rehabilitated here in India.

India's project exports and exports of Engineering goods are likely to suffer a set-back. Export of consumer goods and services may also fall. We may also lose some of the other West Asian markets.

The inflow of foreign exchange from remittances and direct export earnings will be less and the outgo more. India will thus be in the red on the balance of payments front.

Fund-Bank Credit Expansion

Q. "The growing balance of payments gap of the non-oil developing countries can't be bridged for ever" (McNamara). Examine this statement and suggest the role of IMF and IBRD in meeting the challenge.

Ans. The statement under discussion was made by the World Bank President Robert S. McNamara at the 35th joint annual meeting of the Fund-Bank (International Monetary Fund-International Bank for Reconstruction and Development). It raises some vital questions: (1) Why has a "fundamental disequilibrium" in the foreign trade arisen? (2) What role can IMF and IBRD play in meeting the ever-growing trade deficit? (3) What "structural adjustment" in the economy of the oil-importing countries would be necessary? Taking each question seriatim.

(1) It is now common knowledge that the steep rise in the prices of crude and petroleum products since 1973 has adversely affected the balance of payments situation of both the oil-importing developed and the developing countries. While the oil exporting nations will accumulate trade surpluses (estimated at \$ 120 billion for 1980 and \$ 100 billion for 1981) in the wake of the doubling of the oil prices during the past year, the oil importing developing countries (39—including India) have suffered a decline of 10 per cent in their "real" export earnings in the last six years. All imports in the most severely affected countries have inflated the import bill and have, at the same time, bolstered up the soaring prices. The competitive edge of our exports is thus blunted. The foreign trade gap is ever widening.²

(2) The Fund-Bank meet endorsed the Brandt Commission's recommendation to raise the credit-capital (asset) ratio from 1 : 1 to 2 : 1. Its objective is to equip the lending agencies with

2. The non-oil developing countries were faced with a current account deficit of 76 billion dollars in 1980 and 80 billion dollars in 1981 which is more than double as large as their combined deficit in 1978.

increased facilities to advance credit to the member nations. Some countries would be able to increase their borrowings from the IMF more than three times their current level. The Fund would also make additional allocation of SDRs (Special Drawing Rights). The World Bank President suggested that the Bank and its affiliate, IDA (International Development Association) should scale up the new loans to LDCs (Less Developed Countries) as under:

Fiscal Year	Proposed loan limit (in billion dollars)
1. 1979-80	12.2
2. 1980-81	12.8
3. 1981-82	14.4
4. 1982-83	16.2
5. 1983-84	17.8
6. 1984-85	19.6

Note: Fiscal year ends on June 30 each year.

(3) Mr McNamara's theme brought into sharp focus the need for "structural adjustment" in the backward economies. Taken to the logical sequence, it implies that the solution of the problem of chronic or growing imbalances in the international payments does not lie in merely reducing the oil imports nor in finding alternative energy sources. The remedy must go much deeper. A new approach to economic development is called for. In this the planners must concentrate on areas of development with low capital-intensity and low energy-intensity. This may also require fresh thinking on labour-intensive technique as a panacea to banish poverty and unemployment in the third world.

Institutional Finance

Q. What part the different public and private sector financial institutions of India have so far played in the national development schemes?

Ans. Since the dawn of

Independence, 33 years ago, the Central and the State governments and, no less, the private sector have tried to provide the much-needed industrial finance. What is more, the large number of financial institutions have started exercising the option to "share the prosperity of the borrowing units or to meet their liabilities in the lean days". They participate in equity shares to help in the developmental schemes of the borrowing units. Thus, these institutions are not merely the traditional "lenders" but active agents in the growth process. This marks an important change in the policy of the financial institutions.

The joint sector represents a happy marriage between the managerial expertise of the private sector and the financial resources of the public sector institutions. The finances can thus be optimally utilized.

The State Finance Corporations (SFCs), the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI), the Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) and a host of other financial institutions have made big contributions. Since 1970, the IDBI, IFCI and ICICI have implemented special assistance schemes to offer concessional finance for backward regions. Within a span of 23 years, the ICICI has sanctioned Rs. 973 crore for 2301 industrial projects to accelerate the rate of industrial growth.

Expansion of credit facilities through financial institutions is, indeed, a welcome development but, as observed by the Review Committee of the Reserve Bank of India, mere establishment of the additional credit agencies is "no answer to the problem of deficient rural credit system". To plug the gap in rural credit, the regional rural

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Man and Machine in Modern Age

For centuries there was a prolonged and multi-faceted tussle between man and machine. This tussle was preceded by a massive effort by man to master Nature, and the countless as well as mysterious forces of Nature that completely dominated human existence before the dawn of modern civilisation. During the Industrial Revolution the dominance of the machine became obvious; the wheels of industry, people felt sure, would so change the shape of the world that man himself, the proud inventor and deviser of machines and of the myriad production processes would be reduced to an insignificant position: the machine would control all aspects of life.

In fact, from the early stages of the Industrial Revolution the intellectuals, in particular, predicted that machine would before long make man wholly superfluous and irrelevant. This belief was greatly strengthened by the amazing scientific progress in the 20th century during which the automation processes, the electronic devices and the computers gradually replaced human beings. It was felt that as soon as robots were installed everywhere, human services would not be needed or would be only minimal. People started wondering what the majority of humanity would do in that case, since countless men and women would be rendered idle, thrown out of employment, as it were. Automation was dreaded by the mass of workers all over the world as the great menace that would lead to starvation at many levels.

But have robots brought about the drastic transformation of the overall picture of humanity? Have these assembled limbs taken over most of the functions of man? Has man been reduced to a position of no significance, a position in which he is not the master but the slave? Again, has machine itself turned man into a mere robot? To all these questions the answer is a clear and unambiguous "No". In fact, the fears that man would be completely conquered by machine, that there would be more of robots than of men around the world and that the process of mechanisation would completely dominate human life and activity, especially the processes of production, have proved baseless.

This is shown convincingly by the fact that robots are now seen only in scientific exhibitions as models of immense potential, not in factories and the day-to-day processes of production. Of course there are more machines and complicated ones, as well as those which combine or effectively integrate several stages of production on farms and in factories. But the point is that neither the mechanisation, nor the mechanically controlled processes, nor the amazing advances made by science, have reduced man to a pathetic nonentity. Man continues to be the dominant factor; he has not been overshadowed by the machine and the wheel. The notable aspect of the second half of the twentieth century is not the emergence of the machine as the supreme master but the

establishment of the human factor as more vital than ever.

Modern technology has thus had the reverse effect; it has confirmed in so many ways that the human factor is the central one, even in the most technically advanced countries. The machine has not conquered man; rather, man has confirmed his dominance over the machine. The electronics revolution, the development of unbelievable sophistication in modern factories, the flights to the moon, the sending up and maintenance in space of numerous satellites of all sorts—the world has lost count of how many satellites there are roaming the skies for civil and military uses—and the latest inventions of destructive weapons and the horrible nuclear devices, all these and many more have merely proved, if proof was necessary, that man is supreme, not the machine.

The key factor even in the age of science is the human being; he controls, regulates, manipulates, sends up, brings down, maintains or destroys at will; feeds or starves (as he judges best) all the mechanical contrivances that the world has become familiar with. The feared mastery of the machine, happily for humanity, has been restricted to certain rational limits; there is a stage beyond which further mechanisation is impossible. What is more, even for maintaining the present standard of mechanisation human services are necessary and indispensable.

Thus, what the modern age of science has established is not

the complete dominance of machine but the fact that the key factor is the human being, the human brain, which even the most complex computer cannot fully replace. Computers are, of course, a great help and are highly valued time and energy-saving devices, but that is about all. They are aids, not vanquishers of man; they have been devised by man with the aid of science and the human brain, but they are not replacements for human beings. Even as more and more computers have been manufactured and have become common (school children use computers to do even the simplest of additions, multiplications and divisions), the need for greater application of human brains to devise more machines, more weapons, more time-saving devices increases. Computers, robots and electronics thus help man but cannot supplant him; these are tools of convenience, not super human beings. They cannot think for themselves but merely store and compile data and present it in the shape and form commanded by man when he requires it. So it is man himself who continues to be in overall command, notwithstanding the rapid advances in technology and the innumerable types of knowhow currently in use in various fields.

Both art and science, it is said, are creative, and together these ensure the advancement of humanity towards the cherished goals of everyone, rich or poor. But if the ultimate goal of humanity is happiness, welfare and peace, machines and science cannot ensure the achievement of these ideals. If machines are to be used for welfare and not for destruction, it is man's ingenuity and his determination to divert them to the right channels that can do so and decide the fate of millions of people around the globe. Man makes peace and ensures progress by appropriate utilisation of machines;

machines and computers by themselves just cannot act.

Science lacks feeling and reasoning, which are man's prerogatives. The language of science and machines is also dry, soulless. The prime source of scientific expression is reason, and the prime source of artistic expression is imagination. Neither reason nor imagination can be associated with machines; only human beings can do both. Hence the key and decisive role of man, the most wonderful and unique creation of God.

Again, machines and science itself are concerned with man, not with his maker. Science analysis and then synthesis, but it is man who can interpret the analysis and the synthesis. Machine by itself, is anything but a live organism; only man is a living and active being, capable of both devising, correcting and regulating the use of machine.

Only man has the faculty of assessment. The credit for what science and machines can do goes to the inventors and the scientists, in short, to man, not to the implements that assist him in making decisions and putting machines to the best possible use. If there were no men to control machines, aircraft and satellites, railway engines and motor cars, submarines and robots, all would either stand still or keep running, going haywire and ultimately crash in destruction. Thus, even while machines are increasing in number and in sophistication, the need for control and regulation by human beings also increases simultaneously. Man and machine together can ensure human advancement; separately or acting in isolation they cannot do much, not the machine in any case. Human beings invent and manufacture all types of machines—any number of them—as and when he likes to replace or increase them. But no machine in the world can

repair or replace itself. Science can never make man, who is indispensable.

It is, however, futile to give credit to man for all the machines he devises and invents. Why does he manufacture destructive weapons which are capable of killing millions of his fellow men? Science and machines can build or kill, depending upon how man utilises it. And here the role of the intellectual is important. An intellectual's concern should be progress, not destruction. Human faculties can be perfected and an intellectual can become an instrument for the good of man if he is rational. Over the course of history, in many countries the intellectuals have made the best of machines.

Again, an intellectual is one who is primarily preoccupied with the search for truth, for unselfish deeds, not for petty gain or personal ends. He is an integral part of the environment in modern times; he cannot cut himself aloof from society. It is the duty of the intellectual to align himself with the masses, not to shut himself in an ivory tower; he is, of course, expected to think (intellectuals form the "think-tank") but the thinking must be put to good use. But it is totally wrong on his part to say that since he is a mere thinker and theorist, he would like to shut himself up in a cave, away from the realities of life. Of what use is an intellectual's brain, a gift of God, if he does not use it for human welfare, especially in modern times in which there is always the danger of machines going astray, the wrong button being pressed and the wrong use made of the achievements of science?

The intelligent man is expected to do his duty, now more than ever before. When you come to think of it, most of the setbacks to human progress in

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A Decade of Crises in U.N.

The past few years have demonstrated more than ever the utter ineffectiveness of the U.N. as an organisation designed to maintain peace and promote international goodwill. The latest events around the globe seem to have made the U.N. an irrelevance, even a nuisance and a burden on the world community. And yet should we abolish it? What is the alternative? Will the situation improve in any way if the world body is wound up in disgrace? The proposition for discussion is: "The U.N. is a superfluous organisation and a burden on the international community."

Mr A: I fully support the proposition that the U.N. is a superfluous body and a financial burden on the world community. I would go further and say that it is also a risky and dangerous innovation because it imparts and encourages a sense of complacency and the false hope that it would intervene in the case of aggression, or whatever the dispute is about. When the 35th session of the U.N. General Assembly began in New York late in September, 1980, on the very first day the new President, West German Ambassador Ruediger Von Wechmar, declared at the ceremony: "The Assembly convenes at a time when the world has entered a difficult decade, when dangers and crises abound". He admitted that few, if any, international conflicts lend themselves to an easy solution—a fact proved by the ever-mounting documentation of the debates and discussions at the U.N. which itself seems to be posing a serious problem for the world body. Let us review the factual position. The U.N. has proved ineffective in one crisis after another; in fact, a stage has been reached when the U.N. is unable to solve any problem at all, prevent any war, punish any aggressor, or forestall trouble in any quarter of the world. The Big Powers ignore the world body completely and even defy it as often as they please. The

defiance has increased since the Third World secured a majority in the General Assembly. The present position is that only a small minority of the 153 member-nations support the Big Powers, the U.S.A. and the Soviet Union. While the membership of the world organisation has become nearly universal, the large number of newly independent countries of the Third World have tended to dominate the proceedings. The developing nations are, in fact, in a vast, overwhelming majority. But the tragedy is that although they are in a position to get any resolution passed by the General Assembly, despite the opposition of the Big Powers (as was recently done on the Palestine issue) they can do little to ensure implementation which can be secured only through the co-operation of the Big Powers. As a result, the U.N. has been reduced to a pathetic body which can only indulge in tall talk and pass resolutions, and that is about all. Like New Year resolutions, these too are forgotten almost as soon as they are passed. What doubt can there be about the utter futility of continuing such an organisation?

Mr B: It is easy to condemn the United Nations because it has not been able to prevent war and maintain universal peace. But the U.N. is essentially what its members

make of it. The U.N. Constitution, as originally drafted, is such that the Big Five Powers control this body, and all the effective power is in their hands. Although this body has not been able to maintain universal peace, it has served several useful functions. It has served as a forum where the excesses committed by aggressors are exposed to the wide world, where the small nations have a platform to have their say fearlessly, where public opinion can be assiduously built up and moulded, where some step can be discussed for bringing about a cease-fire in theatres of war and where constructive activities can be planned. The Constitution of the U.N. is perhaps defective. The world organisation came into existence in 1945, but the five victorious Powers of World War II moulded the draft pact in such a manner that they got permanent membership of the body and, what is more, the final say through the right of veto which has been frequently exercised. Consequently, despite the change in the complexion of this organisation through the predominance of the Third World in the General Assembly, the final voice remains with the Big Five through their membership of the Security Council and the right to veto. Even if one Big Power exercises the veto, the whole resolution falls through, the opinions of the vast major-

rity of the world population notwithstanding. In any case, what would the world gain by abolishing a body for which no alternative has yet been devised, nor is likely to be devised for decades to come. And even if an alternative organisation is formed, it is likely to prove as ineffective as the existing U.N. It may be recalled that the League of Nations that preceded the present U.N.O. was worse in many respects; its membership was nowhere near the universality the U.N. has achieved. It is a distinct improvement upon the League, and so long as the human greed for pelf and power continues and the strong, rich nations are in no mood to assist the relatively poor countries and help improve their standard of living, no organisation in the world can ensure a better performance. It is true that the requisite political will to ensure a more equitable order is absent but let us not surrender to the counsel of despair. A progressive outlook is sure to develop some time.

Mr C: It is good to be optimistic, I suppose, but isn't my friend, Mr B, hoping for the impossible? Let us take the recent instances of U.N. failure. The world body failed in Vietnam where the long war ended only when the U.S.A. became weary and lost all hope of defeating the Vietnamese people. What has the U.N. done in the Middle East where the progress towards peace between the Arabs and Israel is due entirely to U.S. strategic moves to extend its influence over both Egypt and Israel? What did the U.N. do to resolve the occasional Indo-Pakistan conflicts or the atrocities and massacres in Bangladesh in 1971? Has the U.N. in cases of aggression done anything against the aggressor and anything concrete to save innocent victims from murder, bombing and widespread destruction? In Kampuchea lakhs of inno-

cent people were brutally murdered and starved to death, but the U.N. did very little. It has now planned another conference for early 1981, but failure is writ large on it already. And let us take the latest instances of failure which must have disillusioned people all over the world—the millions who have been waiting for decades for just and more equitable international economic order. A special session of the U.N. General Assembly was held but nothing came of it, and the session, lasting many weeks, was saved at the last minute from utter failure by a meaningless resolution that meant precisely nothing. Iraq invaded Iran in the third week of September, 1980, and the war there has cost the world millions of dollars worth of precious and irreplaceable oil, with permanent damage done to the oil installations. The U.N. was, for all practical purposes, a helpless spectator. The U.N. did not even send a team to Iran to settle the dispute. The mediation efforts have been made by the non-aligned nations, including India, entirely on their own and outside the United Nations. The world body has repeatedly called for an end to n-weapons. To what purpose? What utility has the U.N. in the world of today? In fact, its existence is doing harm. Apart from the millions of dollars that are spent on each session of the world body (and each nation has to contribute to its soaring but futile expenditure) which yield precious little apart from lengthy speeches in the General Assembly which nobody reads and only inflate the world body's massive paper records, there is also the growing danger that the Big Powers, especially the U.S.A., and to some extent the Soviet Union, sow more seeds of discord among the nations of the world at U.N. sessions, divide them by tempting some of them with cash or military aid. The recent sessions of the U.N. have shown

that the Third World itself is hopelessly divided (thanks to the discord created by the U.S.A., backed by its powerful allies). Thus the U.N. has become doubly ineffective and increased disunity and discord instead of promoting goodwill and amity.

Mr D: It seems to me that my friends, Mr A and Mr C, expected too much from the U.N.O. Unless the world body has some teeth (which were denied to it by universal consent) it is futile to expect it to police the world, keep peace, rush its forces (non-existent) to theatres of war. We must note that there have been wars throughout history, the U.N. or no U.N. Human beings are greedy for power, and world statesmen are power hungry. The U.N. cannot change human nature. Again, injustice has also been a feature of the world for ages. How can the U.N. make men all over the world honest and pure in heart? In this imperfect world the rich will always continue to hold on to their riches and their vast possessions. Human nature being what it is, conflicts will continue. Saints and sages talk of a world where truth and non-violence will prevail and justice will be done to every one. But all that represents a utopia. Even if we can afford some relief to the sufferers of wars by rehabilitating them, by providing them succour and shelter, by preventing the spread of disease and epidemics through international action financed through worldwide contributions, we have achieved something. Examine, for instance, the useful work done by the World Health Organisation, UNESCO and UNICEF, all of which are jointly financed by the countries of the world. If the U.N. has not been able to ensure a more equitable international economic order, is it only the Big Powers' fault? Are the

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Step Out from your Erroneous Zone

There could be more than one erroneous zones for an individual. He may be aware of some, unaware of others. One person may be handicapped because of his unhappy past, regrets gnawing at his heart. Another may feel hurt because he has not achieved what he wanted because of his laziness or insufficient zeal and effort.

Others have identified their erroneous zones as inability to identify their goals properly. Yet others may have wasted precious time and energy seeking others' approval which was not needed. Some could not break away from the past or free themselves from wasting emotions like worry and guilt. There could be some who procrastinated beyond what was necessary. Some suffered from security complex and remained tied to the present stagnation. While most remain undeveloped because they do not have the enough courage to break loose from convention. The erroneous zones could be multiplied. These could form separate themes for further issues.

The most significant, however elementary it might seem or sound, is one's failure to take charge of one's self. The drifter, like the waif on the turbulent waters of the sea, does not reach anywhere. You have to take charge of yourself. Stop being a drifter, a waif. There are powerful reasons for it.

Dr W.W. Dyer gives an excellent reason which cannot be improved upon. "Look over your shoulder. You will notice a constant companion. For want of a better name, call him

your-own-death. You can fear this visitor or use him for personal gain. The choice is up to you....."

Death is inevitable, certain as well as it keeps no timetable. Even if it does, we mortals know nothing about it. Now, life being uncertain and short, should you remain at the mercy of circumstances. Others? Not do things which *you* want to do? The point is: you can let death make you ineffectual or use it to help you learn effectively.

The next time you think about yourself and your priorities, you will think of taking charge of yourself. Make your own choices. Here is a useful tip: Ask yourself: How long am I going to be *dead*? Most people ask themselves: how long they are going to live? See the point? The first question will awaken you from your mental stupor, put you on trail of success and achievement. You will shed crippling doubts and fears. If you do not, the alternative is obvious. You will live all your life the way others say you must. If your stay on this earth is so brief, it should be yours and you should be able to put it to the best use.

When you prepare yourself to take charge of yourself, you will be confronted with several mental ghosts which will begin to haunt you. You have to look them straight in the face and bury them. The most haunting will be the notion that intelligence is measured by one's ability to solve complicated problems. To read, write and compute at fast speed which will astonish others and flatter you.

You may also think that solution of abstract equations is yet another. In other words, you have been nursed on the notion that intelligence involves formal education, bookish excellence and a measure of achievement. It encourages a kind of intellectual snobbery. It is bound to rub you the wrong way. Let the opportunity arise. You will be deflated.

Let's have a look around. It is commonly believed that a person who has a staggering memory, has mastered one subject or has a sponge like mind remembering dates, time etc. of superfluous events is very intelligent. Shed this notion. It is not accumulation of such information that counts. It is its right application. A true index of intelligence is an effective, useful life lived from moment to moment.

You must have come across scores of people who are unable to overcome some personality minus points all their life. For example, a neurotic remains a neurotic. He continues to spread unhappiness, is suspicious, thinks that the whole world is hostile to him. What happens to him ultimately? He suffers from a nervous breakdown. The reason? He has not taken charge of himself. He lives on others' thinking. He has not emerged from his particular erroneous zone.

The astonishing truth is there is no breakdown because the nerves do not break. People who have stepped out from their erroneous zones, do not suffer from nervous breakdowns because they have taken charge of

themselves. Their nerves are under their control, not *vice versa*. They remain in control of themselves because they are in full awareness of their potential. They know how to ward off depression.

It might surprise you to learn that this does not necessarily mean solving their problems in a jiffy or with a magic wand. Not the least. Rather than measuring their intelligence on the basis of whether they can solve a problem or not, they do it on the basis of whether they can keep their balance in the face of it or not. Do they succeed? Watch people carefully. Successful people do keep this balance. Dr Dyer says, "You can begin to think of yourself as truly intelligent on the basis of how you choose to feel in the face of trying circumstances."

With some variations here and there each one of us has to face problems whose nature is not very different. Conflicts, sorrows, deaths, disease, injury, disagreements, frustration and failure are common to us all. How is that despite this some people are able to steer clear of unhappiness and dejection that stem from these circumstances while others buckle down and sink in blues?

Those people who have conditioned their thinking in such a way that look upon problems as human condition and do not measure happiness by *an absence of problems* are the most intelligent.

When you decide to take charge of yourself, you will have to recast your thinking. Additionally, there are always forces working against the individual in society. Hence the task is not easy but it is not impossible. The only sure way is to put faith in your own ability to feel emotionally whatever you choose to feel at any time in your life. This may read sensational. Because you must have been nursed

on thinking that you cannot control emotions because they are natural. They just happen as day and night and nobody can do a thing about them. It is not necessary to *control* them. It is absolutely necessary to *accept* them. Suppose death may occur. What happens? What are your options? Feeling sorrow is natural. Emotion is justified. But if you refuse to *accept* the unhappy event you will find yourself wasting away without knowing what is happening to you. You have not controlled death. You have not controlled sorrow. Yet you have come out of it unscathed.

What is the logical consequence of this reasoning? It is simple: feelings are not just emotions which occur to us. These are *reactions* we have conditioned ourselves to produce for given situations. It is up to us. We can choose destructive, negative reactions. We can choose positive encouraging reactions. Two youngmen sit in a prestigious examination. Both fail. One commits suicide, the other tries again and succeeds. See the difference! It is absolutely important for you to know that you can choose your reactions. That is taking charge of yourself. That is emerging from your erroneous zone.

Direct advantages flow from your realisation that you can choose your reactions. The most important is that even without bookish excellence you would be called and known as intelligent.

There is a compelling need to control your thinking apparatus. You alone control the entry of thoughts into your mind. You are the sentinel guarding your mental gates. If you think, it is untrue, ask yourself who is then? Is it your shadow? Your father, mother, friends or what? If any of these are guarding your mental gates,

you are unguarded. You have not taken charge of yourself.

One can draw only one sure and irrefutable conclusion from the foregoing: if you control your thoughts(your feelings stem from them) then you are capable of controlling your feelings too. The control over feelings does not begin directly. It begins from working on your thoughts. Thoughts come first.

Many a time you must have thought that certain situations, things or individuals hurt or make you unhappy. Nothing could be more misleading. Your hurt, your unhappiness stems not from them but from *your thoughts* about them. That is why betrayal from a stranger does not hurt you but betrayal from a friend does. Simply, it is because you have thoughts about the friend that he would be faithful. Had you nursed yourself on the thought that he could let you down any time, there would be no hurt.

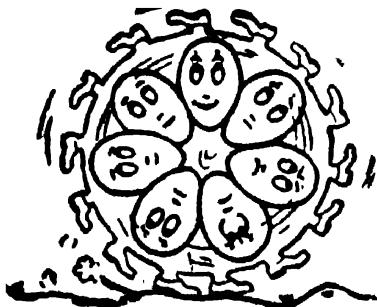
Shedding your complexes, stepping out from your erroneous zone means becoming a free and mentally, emotionally healthy person. It involves adopting a different thinking approach. Once you embark upon the interesting journey of changing your thoughts, your new feelings will begin to emerge and you will have taken the most vital and significant step towards emerging from your erroneous zone.

ECONOMIC SCENE

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banks, whose number is growing gradually, are offering credit facilities to the priority sector e.g., cottage and small scale industries, agriculture, transport services. The banks are advised to advance loans at very low concessional rates—4 per cent per annum—for credit-worthy projects.

Cry Over "Corruption" of English



From time to time one feels the need to raise a mild eyebrow at uninformed and hysterical outbursts over the alleged corruption and decadence of English today. In the first place language is only one manifestation, however, important of human behaviour and we deceive ourselves if we think that the cause or cure of the so called linguistic corruption lies in language alone. It is equally wrong to claim that the supposed decadence of language is a symptom of everything else we deplore.

It has become customary to pass on the buck on everything. If it is language and culture and morals, then our favourite whipping boy is the western mores. Lack of religious fervour increasing want of respect of authority, is also balmed on the permissive west which is slowly and surely seeping into our life. Languagewise it is America who is the villain of the piece. Slang comes from the yankee. He is corrupting the language because he is simplifying it. We are the only puritans. See what we have done to our beloved Hindi. Whatever we have not allowed it to be corrupted. We are a great nation, great lover of our national language, great Hindi.

If it crime, it is America which is invading our country through literature, films and like. Sexual perversion too comes to us innocents and puritans from America. May be. But we must not overlook that all of us double even multiple standards. We have a store of re-

pertoire of English that varies according to whether we are with friends or family daughter or son subordinate or boss. Also whether we are writing or speaking to whom and at what time. All these factors determine the use of language. Some may think that there is an element of badness in having varying standards but it cannot be helped. It is the same with language. The use of language depends on a multiplicity of factors which corresponds with multiplicity of human behaviour. Once this is clear, the rest will naturally become so and also enable us to determine whether the language is being doomed or not.

At the present time, anxiety about change is complicated by there being several kinds of change and one has already been mentioned: change in society and its environment. A century ago statesmen were not required to make so many pronouncements off the cuff and there was leisure to vet them before they appeared in print. In our clock hunted times, there is far more rapid and wholesale transfer from one medium to another with less time or inclination for adjustment in terms of correctness. We thus see far more frequent forms of expression which we do not easily notice or object to if we hear them in conversation. But is this popular language really more debased and corrupt than the language of the music hall to which the masses were exposed when.....

Then there are the changes in education. It is commonly

said that the new trends in education have result in lowered standard of written English. Since more pupils are sitting in examination than before and since the additional ones come mainly from least education classes it is not surprising that to find more poor performances.

Many educationists claim that children are becoming proficient in areas unknown to earlier generations in primary schools. There is the wider knowledge and exposure to it. Even within the subject called English, it is claimed that there is more realisation of the child's personality and experience in his writing than there was when the neat well written sentences were concerned only with dull rigid and derivative exercises.

A further change is that affecting grammarians themselves. There are fewer and fewer who believe that English can be ruled from outside by references to absolute standards derived from logic or by reference to the grammatical rules of a language that was thought to have more prestige. Instead scholars have put more and more stress on observing and studying English as it is actually used rather than as it ought to be. They have particularly interested themselves in the spoken language.

According to our temperament we may like or dislike particular changes in language. But we must be clear in our mind

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MODEL PARAGRAPHS

Paragraph-writing is one of the compulsory questions in many of the higher-grade competitive examinations. Thoughts in certain well-known quotations are required to be developed into suitable paragraphs. Some examples are given hereunder.

The best part of every author is to be found in his book.

(*Samuel Johnson—1765*)

When an author writes a book, particularly a book which is not just a pot-boiler but one written with the pen dipped in his own blood he has communicated his essence to his readers. For the rest he ate and drank, woke and slept, laughed and wept, in life as in his writings like common clay. A good book, however, is the precious life-blood of a writer. When, therefore, we are keen to get at an author, what he thinks and feels, his biography, much less the idle gossip that has gathered round him, will be an inadequate portrayal of the real man. A biography has a tendency to hero-worship, suppressing inconvenient facts and magnifying certain others. It may sometimes degenerate into drab details like Shakespeare's laundry bills; the shape of Luther's hat or the food fads of Mahatma Gandhi. Even his autobiography may fail to satisfy. Autobiographies are prone to self-reproach or self-glorification. His writings, therefore, constitute a dependable source of the author's picture. Shakespeare's Hamlet tells us much more about the man Shakespeare than all the contemporary records or subsequent biographies and criticisms. Hazlitt was not far wrong when he said "If we want to know the greatness of human genius, we should read the plays of Shakespeare. If, however, we are interested in the triviality and futility of human endeavour,

we might read his commentators."

Neither current events nor history shows that the majority rules or ever did rule.

(*Jefferson—1864*)

The tragedy of modern democracies is that they have not yet succeeded in effecting democracy. A clique, a combine, a coterie or a syndicate of billionaire's rule America, England, France, Germany, Italy and other countries. That is truer still of India where poverty sprawls. More than half the population of this country lives below the poverty line. Their representatives should properly be pale, emaciated, sunken-eyed ragged starvelings. Instead, we find our legislatures reverberating with the shouts of prosperous, pot-bellied, spotlessly dressed gentlemen, clamouring like Oliver Twist for more and more privileges and very often getting them. There is nothing in common between these gentlemen and the below-the-poverty-line sons of India. And we are the largest democracy in the world. No wonder Shaw considers democracy a hoax and a fraud. Money talks, money prints, money broadcasts, money reigns. It has always been like that here as elsewhere. Money and power, and power that money gives have controlled the strings. Feudal lords, barons, landed aristocracy and now industrial magnates wield real power and the masses are driven like dumb cattle. Majority rule is only a make-

believe, the facade of a building whose owner is Mammon. The irony is that the make-believe goes on.

Few rich men own their own property; the property owns them.

(*Robert Ingersoll - 1896*)

Midas, the gold-loving king of Phrygia prayed for the golden touch and the prayer was granted. Exhilarated, even maddened by the unearthly gift Midas romped along touching every object that came his way and turning it into gold. But the exhilaration very soon gave way to sorrow and despair. He had over-reached himself. But it is given to few persons to learn Midas' lesson. The love of gold possesses them like a demon. Like the Jew of Malta their one ambition is to have "infinite riches in a little room." From millions to billions and from billions to trillions the appetite grows and knows no satisfaction. Every activity is subordinated to the pursuit of wealth; in fact it is an instrument for further acquisition. Marriage is for money, social service is for money; even charity is for money. The fellow casts his bread in the waters so that it should come back buttered. For people like these the holy word Love is spelt with £. Their god is Mammon whose shrine is bespattered with buoyant billions. Their whole outlook is coloured by this craving for money which so obsesses them that from the cradle to the grave it is a perennial quest for

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1. Sources of Happiness

"Happiness is but an occasional episode in the painful drama of life", said Hardy and he was stating the general belief of mankind down the ages. Human life is a mixture of smiles, sobs and sniffles with sniffles predominating. Buddha talked of suffering as the staple of life while Nanak stressed the universality of suffering. Suffering is permanent and has the nature of infinity. Not all the riches of Croesus or the empire of Alexander could ensure happiness. It comes as a cloud, a vapour which is, and then is not. At the end of a career of conquest and uninterrupted rule Abdur Rahim said "I have now reigned above fifty years, in victory and peace, beloved by my subjects, dreaded by my enemies and respected by my allies. Riches and honour, power and pleasure have waited on my call, nor does any earthly blessing appear to be wanting for my felicity. In this situation, I have diligently numbered the days of pure, genuine happiness which have fallen to my lot; they amount to fourteen.

We have looked for happiness in wrong places. Not power and pelf, nor possessions and palaces can be productive of happiness. Not that these should be shunned as things of vice but when they are looked

upon as the be-all and end-all, the result is not happiness but its opposite. Arnold prays for toil unsevered from tranquillity. Wherever there is unending and hectic race, an ever-widening horizon of craving, it turns out to be a chase of the will o' the wisp, culminating in disillusionment; honey changing into ashes in the mouth. We should be grateful that the glass is half-full rather than lament that it is half-empty yet. The first is the way of contentment and happiness, while the second takes us to misery.

A story of Turgenev's called "Two Friends" ends with the words "Pyoh Vassilyitch, his wife and all his household lead a very monotonous life, quiet and peaceful; they are happy—for there is no other happiness on earth." Domestic life is a good source of happiness provided there is no rift in the lute. Many a marriage is wrecked on the rock of incompatibility. Many a youthful heart, fervent and sincere, looked forward to a haven of bliss in matrimony but discovered that what they thought to be roses, roses all the way was no more than a path strewn with bristles. Even when there is no other snag, financial worries may add the bitter drop to the cup. Marriages may be ordained in heaven, but poverty

upsets the apple-cart; love disintegrates and happiness flounders.

Increasing affluence and acquisitiveness may not promote happiness, but a modest competence, a reasonable measure of prosperity is a *sine qua non* for happiness.

Even when these factors have contributed to happiness, there is the danger of its getting monotonous and stale. Isolated happiness, however splendid, begins to pall, in the absence of a direction or vision. After all such a man has made himself a fragment, a pebble, a drop. He must seek fulfilment in the sense of belonging to a larger whole. Even the meanest of us can find that fulfilment in expanding our personality by selecting some sphere of social activity and seeking true happiness in the service of others.

Hindu religion looks upon the universe as a sacrificial fire where every one must offer his oblation. It is a grand concept, one of giving oneself up to the service of commonalty. This is also the spirit behind the Muslim Zakaat, the Christian charity and the Buddhist Sangha. There is no real happiness in ploughing a lonely furrow. True happiness flows from subserving the common good.

2. The Spirit of Religion

The recent communal riots at Delhi, Aligarh, Moradabad and other places have made the common man sit up and ponder

as to what is wrong with our understanding of religion. We can go berserk, break our neighbour's head, set fire to his house

and throw his children on the street. Having done all this we can, without any remorse, enter our own place of worship and

render thanks to the Almighty for the opportunity. He has given us to prove His existence and vindicate our own brand of religion. Lord what fools these mortals be!

When world war I began, the Protestants in Germany prayed in their churches for victory since truth, they claimed, was on their side. Likewise Englishmen, mostly Protestants justified their own stand, and made similar prayers. God must have had a tough time deciding who was in the right. Ultimately he left them to their weapons—and their wickedness.

Two brothers used to attend congregational prayer of Jesus and made offerings. One day only one turned up. On being asked he said that they had quarrelled. Jesus at once declined his offering asking him to make up with his brother first before coming to the prayers. Prophets unite but the priests divide. The followers of this very Jesus split themselves into Roman Catholics, Protestants, Puritans, Anglicans, Unitarians, Trinitarians, orthodox churches of various brands. And how much precious human blood has been spilt during this division and fragmentation; how much bitterness and hatred has vitiated the atmosphere in the name of one who was the Prince of Peace and Love.

This divisive tendency is to be met everywhere. Buddhism bifurcated into Mahayan and Hinayan, Jainism into Digambar and Svetambar, Islam into Sunni and Shia; in fact, every religion in course of time has become sect-ridden and there is no love lost between two sects. Each sect claims the monopoly of truth and a correct interpretation of what the prophet had said. Like the six blind men of Hindustan who could not tell what the elephant exactly looked like, these sectarians have made the part greater than the whole. Controversies have been floated

on trivial issues and the true vision of the prophet has been clouded and even corrupted.

Religion is, really speaking, the pursuit of truth. Looked at thus, there should be no essential difference between religion and science. But what tremendous opposition science had to encounter in its early stages from the dogmatism of religion. Bruno was burnt at the stake and Galileo was cudgelled into submission. Even in the nineteenth century Darwin and Huxley were bullied and reviled but they stood their ground in the cool confidence that those who had come to scoff would one day realize their folly.

Bertrand Russell has advocated the formation of a One-World Government with a single army, a single police force, a common pool of earth's resources, particularly oil and fissionable material. To all these one might add the adumbration of

what Tagore has called "The Religion of Man". The common cry of religions have divided man and man, pitting brother against brother, shedding rivers of blood and while promising heaven converting this beautiful earth into hell. The Religion of Man will be based on tolerance and goodwill. Human dignity will be respected. All efforts will be directed towards changing the heart of the evildoer. Hatred will be a thing of the past, even hatred of evil. There will be no burning of heretics, no killing of *Kaffirs*, no ostracizing of non-conformists. These things run contrary to the true spirit of religion.

The malpractices and hatred-mongering of priests have brought God into disrepute. We need today a complete break with the past. The Greatness of God must be rehabilitated, not by the sword and the stake but by love and compassion.

MODEL PARAGRAPHS (*Contd. from page 298*)

Possessions, and everything is interpreted in terms of £.s.d.

A good catch-word can obscure analysis for fifty years.

(Wendell Wilkie—1938)

A catch-word or a slogan is food for the masses who swallow it eagerly. If the slogan is set afloat by a great and sincere soul it metamorphoses the masses who become a living lava to bring about big changes. When Tilak raised the slogan "Swaraj is my birthright", or Gandhi called for Purna Swaraj or Marx coined the phrase "Workers of the world, unite", an electric current went down every spine and great movements were ushered in. But more often than not the catch-words are deceptive. They are vote-catching devices, or snares to catch the unwary. The world

war I broke out in 1914 and the Allies hit on the catch-words "A war to save democracy"; "A war to end all wars." Thousands of youngmen in all countries were deceived and jumped into the fray. The war ended in 1919 and the Treaty of Versailles was signed. But ironically enough, even before the ink of the Treaty document was dry, preparations for the next war started and Dictatorships reared their head in many countries of Europe. A wave of disillusionment was quite natural and is reflected in the literature of the twenties. In India, also, the catch-word "Banish Poverty" hoodwinked the masses and won their votes. The trick worked but poverty was aggravated. The number of those who lived below the poverty line swelled. But the catch-word has a delicious ring.

Food and Divorce

Food plays a vital role in building up or demolishing the edifice of marriage. Without knowing it many housewives play it easy, prepare foods which have no real food value and thus gradually turn the husband into a non-responsive cobbage. There are others who cook food in a way that keeps the hubby's hormones whiz always in motion. It is all in the food. The same may be said of the wife herself. She may be depriving the hubby of much needed warmth and company not because there is anything wrong with her but because she is eating the wrong kind of food making her lazy or indifferent to love food leads them to divorce.

When nothing else is wrong and yet one of the spouses suffers from frequent fits of depression, it is time to look at the food calendar and habits. These will provide vital clues. Depression, fatigue, inability to concentrate vague sense of uneasiness lassitude and slowness in movements, losing interest in household chores are symptoms not diseases. Spouses should watch these and get alert and instead of getting panicky, they should examine their food habits, say the latest researches.

The commonest cause of depression and low spirits is caused by a condition called low blood sugar technically called hypoglycemia a tendency of the glucose concentration in the blood to go lower than is good for health. Although many contributory factors have to be checked and corrected, the main thing is to adopt a special kind of food diet to stabilize the blood

sugar at proper level. Change in the eating habits food helps in regaining the lost energy. It helps in resparking the waning sex in marriage and brings about a general toning up of relationship.

Glucose, the sugar which body chemistry deposits in the bloodstream is the basic fuel of all cells in the body. A shortage of this fuel results in body's inability to function efficiently. This is fatigue. When brain and nervous system fail to get the requisite supply, depression sets in.

Couples who quarrel regularly, sink into blues or show signs of irritation seemingly without provocation, are victims of this condition without their knowing it. The relationship is constantly under strain not because of incompatibility but because of food they eat. If food makes or mars one's body, it plays a similar role in making or marring a marriage.

Those who have a sweet tooth generally suffer this condition. Eating too much sugary stuff makes them feel better at once but there is aftermath. Too much efficiency is followed by depression which is caused by over stimulation of pancreas and insulin.

The housewife with low blood sugar have to face strenuous work they react with neurosis. They rough it up with children and give the show the seamy side of their temper to the hubby. If both are affected by the same condition, hell is let loose. Aggression is usually followed by prolonged stretches of moody silence. But there is no

respite as there is no check up or change, in the food content.

Our life is fast changing and with this are norms of hosting and guesting. Snacks are served almost round the clock. No one is bothered about what one is pushing down the gullet. As such large amounts in instalments go down the system in the form of samosa, patties, potato chips and wafers, ice creams pudding etc. Every time is tea time results in intake of unwafered food beyond calculation. Coffee accounts for another quantity. Bare tea or coffee offered to a guest is considered an affront. Biscuits, Gulab jamin, sweets, barfi, pakoras and other snacks must accompany the lover. Add to this the intake of tobacco and drinks for men and guess !

Spouses who find themselves in the same condition as described above need not panick. The diet is the answer to their problems. The first important step is to give up make a taboo of all sugary foods in the kitchen. Increase the intake of protein foods. Colas, ice creams, sweet dishes could be done away with. Cereals fresh fruit and leafy vegetables give ample supply of nutritious food.

Cry Over "Corruption" of English (Contd. from page 297)

about one thing: Is it more disreputable to be using a somewhat different language from that our ancestors than it is to travel by a air-conditioned bus instead of a rickety structure on wheels driven by coal?

FASCINATING FACTS

Caffeine and Cancer

A JAPANESE doctor claims to have found a tentative link between high dose of caffeine and cancer in rats.

Dr Shozo Takayama, head of experimental pathology at Tokyo's cancer institute says he had just finished an 18-month-long experiment on 300 rats divided equally between male and female in three batches.

The first group had a diet of water containing 0·1 per cent of caffeine, the stimulant in coffee. The second were given water with 0·2 per cent of caffeine, while the third had plain water.

Of the 142 rats surviving in the first two groups, 70 per cent of the females and 35 per cent of the males developed tumours. Tumour sites included the pituitary gland, thyroid gland breasts and uterus. But Dr Takayama did not specify whether they were benign or malignant.

By comparison, only 15 per cent of the females and three per cent of the males, in the 82 survivors of the third group developed tumours.

Dr Takayama says the average caffeine intake of the rats in the first two groups was comparable to a man drinking about 100 cups of coffee a day for 20 years.

Elsewhere in the world such experiments with caffeine have had more conflicting results. Cancer experts in London noted that such high doses of caffeine could possibly change the entire

metabolism of the rat, this change leading to tumours.

Similar objections have been raised over the experimental evidence from Canada and the United States indicating a link between saccharin and cancer.

Coffee is Good Food

CONTRARY to the general belief coffee is nutritive, according to the National Institute of Nutrition (NIN).

It is particularly rich in "niacin", one of the B vitamins. The amount of niacin is increased when the seeds are roasted according to the NIN scientist, Dr Ramesh Bhat.

"That is why heavy coffee drinkers do not develop pellagra, the disease caused by niacin deficiency" Dr Bhat says in the NIN journal "Nutrition". Green coffee beans contain 11 per cent protein and 8 per cent sugars.

Gardening on the Moon

RESEARCH of a dozen lunar samples obtained from the U.S.A. and Russia has revealed that a lunar rock is completely fragmented in periods of 10 to 15 years because of high energy and micrometeorite impacts.

As a consequence of this mechanism, the research further reveals, the dust is also continuously reworked and a phenomenon akin to gardening of surface soil takes place.

The Physical Research Laboratory is conducting the lunar

sample research for the last six years with assistance from the National Aeronautic and Space Administration (NASA) and the USSR Academy of Science. These agencies provided the rock and dust samples of the moon that were brought by the Luna and Apollo flights.

Meanwhile, research by Japanese scientists has shown that Moonquakes -the moon's equivalent of earthquakes—are apparently caused by the earth's gravitational pull.

How to kill Yourself

BRITAIN's voluntary euthanasia society, EXIT decided at a stormy week-end meeting to publish a guide on how to kill yourself, with newly elected officials declaring they will go to jail for their beliefs.

Amid shouts of "drop dead" and "resign" a crowded meeting fired society executives who decided against publishing the guide, and elected a new committee of 12 pledged to publish.

The booklet intended primarily for the incurably ill and incapacitated lists four bloodless methods of suicide, including specific instructions on fatal overdoses of pills available without prescription at drug stores, EXIT said. Much of the 30-page booklet officials says, is however, devoted to counselling against suicide.

Intelligence TEST

1. If four players are to draw one card each from anywhere in the pack and retain it, what is the chance that each will have drawn an ace?

2. Arrange the ten figures from '0' to '9' in two lines of five so that, when one line is subtracted from the other, the smallest number possible remains. No numerical signs may be introduced.

3. What numbers are represented by A, B and C ?

4	3
16	21

5	2
A	B

7	1
6	C

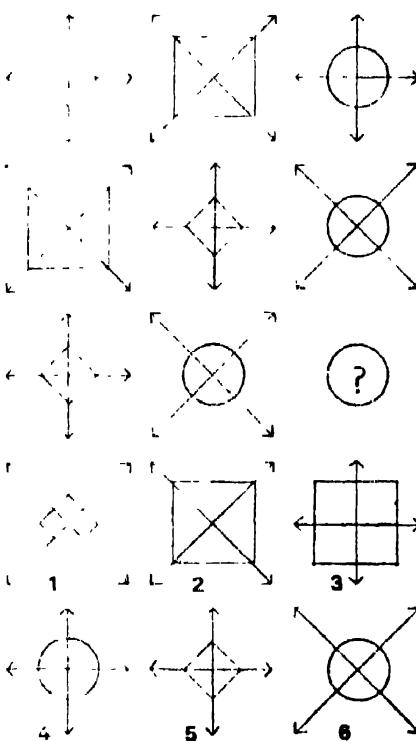
4. What number goes into the empty space ?

0	4	5	8	7	1	3
	4	9	13		8	4

5. Supply the missing number.

4 9 19 39 ?

6. Which of the six numbered figures fits into the vacant circle ?



7. Complete the following from the given meanings.

(a) O . . or . . n .
(favourable, well-timed)

(b) R . . l . . l . . .
(absurd, laughable)

8. Supply the word which fits the different meanings outside the brackets.

the Capital funds of a company (.....) a flower.

9. Insert the missing letter.
F I M P T ?

10. Find the word that can be prefixed by any of the letters on the left.

B . .

F

R . .

T . .

11. Find the odd men out.

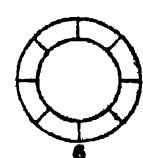
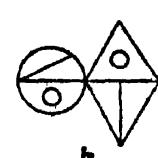
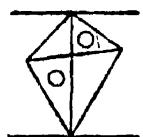
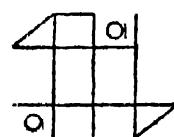
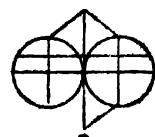
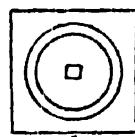
(a) contend fag lam sweet ball

(b) abase abate allot able abide

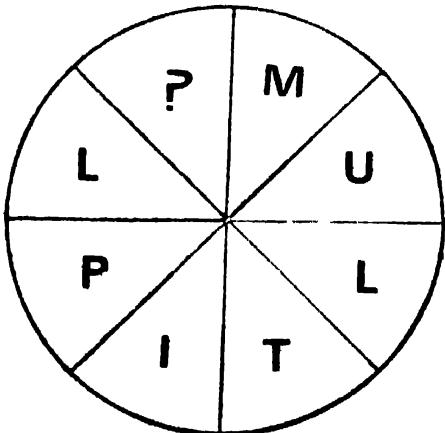
12. Give one word for the following ending in "ism".

Of the millennium or (person) believing in this.

13. Find the odd man out.



14. Insert the missing letter.



15. Pick out the word from the bottom line that goes with the three at the top.

ROCK ROOM STEAD
smart bulge rain odd
ridden

16. Complete the following words from the given meanings.

(a) V . r . . c . . . r
(native, indigenous)
(b) U . . n . . . s
(all of one mind, agreeing)

17. What is the missing number?

P	5	9
54	29	16

18. Each word that satisfies these definitions contains the word: RAN

(a) Eccentric person (b)
Downright (c) Pillage (d) Put in order

19. Find the odd man out.

DOG DATA KITE PEE
TEA

20. Who invented the Miners safety lamp?

21. Which part of the Himalayas did Russian-born landscape artist Nicholas Roerich, make his home?

(a) Tehri Garhwal (b) Nag-

gar, Kulu Valley (c) Kishtwar, Jammu (d) Chamba

22. Which letter does not belong here?

W A X
E H T
M N Y

Answers & Explanations

1. When the first person draws the chance is one in thirteen, second person however, will have only 51 cards to draw from three of which will be aces; his chance is therefore, three in fifty-one. The third person's chance is one in twenty-five; and the fourth's one in forty nine.

Combined chances

$$= \frac{1}{13} \times \frac{1}{13} \times \frac{1}{25} \times \frac{1}{49}$$

$$= \frac{1}{270,725}$$

2.
$$\begin{array}{r} 50123 \\ 49876 \\ \hline 247 \end{array}$$

3. $A=11 \quad B=26 \quad C=36$
(Examination of the numbers shows that each number is obtained by multiplying the opposite lower number by five and adding one. In the first square 5 times 3+1=16 and 5 times 4+1=21. In the third square 5 times 1+1=6.)

4. 15. (The lower number is the sum of the number above it and its preceding number.)

5. 79. (Double each number and add one. $39 \times 2 = 78 + 1 = 79$.)

6. 3. (Each line contains a circle, a square and a diamond; the diagrams are alternately up and down or side ways. The missing figure must therefore be a square with down lines outside.)

7. (a) Opportune
(b) Ridiculous

8. Stock.

9. W. (Skip two and three letters alternately, in the alphabetical sequence.)

10. EACH.

11. (a) ball. (The rest of the words have in the beginning and end consecutive letters i.e., c—d, f—g etc.)
(b) allot. (The rest of the words start with a and end with e.)

12. Millenarianism.

13. 5. (The rest of the figures have two circles and eight straight lines each.)

14. Y. (The letters read clock-wise spell out the word "Multiply").

15. Ridden. (All these can be prefixed by BED.)

16. (a) Vernacular. (b) Unanimous.

17. 103. (Each number, beginning with 5, is double the preceding one, minus two, minus three etc.
 $54 \times 2 = 108; 108 - 5 = 103$.)

18. (a) CRANK (b) ARRANT
(c) RANSACK (d) ARRANGE

19. KITE. (The sum of the numerical values of the letter add up to 26 except in KITE.)

20. Davy.

(b).

Y. (There are four strokes making up the first letter in each row; three strokes make the second letter, and two strokes should make the third letter. There are three strokes in Y.)

Argumentative Questions ON CURRENT PROBLEMS

- India's Prime Minister
- India's Huge Defence Expenditure
- Election Campaigns
- Another Emergency in India ?

India's Prime Minister

Q. "India's Prime Minister is the strongest Head of Government in the world." Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons *For* and *Against* this view.

Ans. For the past three decades and more, millions of people have believed that the country's Prime Minister is the most powerful person in the country and probably among the heads of all democracies in the wide world. For one thing, India is the world's largest democracy, with about 650 million people and continental dimensions of, a veritable physical giant sprawling from east to west and north to south of this sub-continent. Many of its 22 States and nine Union Territories are much larger in size and population than most of the countries of Europe and Africa. India is a federation, by and large, though it has distinct characteristics of a unitary form of government. Most of the important powers are concentrated at the Centre, which in effect means the Prime Minister. But Mrs Gandhi has said that she has less power than any other Head of Government and, according to her, even the Chief Ministers of the States have more powers than she has. Of course there are certain limitations but few people are willing

to believe that the Prime Minister has less powers than other Heads of Government. The reality is that all the Chief Ministers of the 18 Congress-dominated States, at any rate, look to her for support and patronage.

Arguments *For* the View

1. In every parliamentary system of government it is the Prime Minister, the leader and chairman of the Council of Ministers, in whom all the power rests. The President of India, the Head of State, is the nominal head, like the King or Queen of Britain. The Constitution states that the Council of Ministers "aids and advises" the President, but in practice all the decisions are made by the Ministry and the Prime Minister's voice is naturally decisive since he or she is the leader of the ruling party.

2. In India the Prime Minister has throughout occupied the predominant position in the Government of the country. Nehru ruled the country like a giant, and Mrs Indira Gandhi, who has no strong rival and no viable alternative, has generally acted in an authoritarian manner, unrestrained and unrestricted, overruling her colleagues. In fact so dominating is her personality that no

one dares to oppose her or express a different viewpoint. So it is her will that matters; her Ministers are merely loyal, faithful, timid colleagues—"yes-men" who know that their tenure depends upon her sweet will. And she does all the planning and thinking for herself, all on her own, without relying upon anyone else for advice, consultation or counsel. Nowhere else in any democracy does the Prime Minister occupy such a privileged position.

3. Since the States of the Indian Union, according to some people, have been reduced to the status of municipalities, the Centre has grown very powerful. The States have very limited powers; the Centre's directives are decisive. The recent Constitutional amendments empower the Centre to take the initiative in all cases where the States do not conform to a unified policy. The States' autonomy has, in fact, been repeatedly eroded, and the trend continues. A State administration can be taken over at any time and President's rule imposed; Assemblies can be dissolved (and this has actually been done in 1977 and again in 1980) through a Presidential order issued at the Prime Minister's initiative. The Centre often destabilises the State

administrations for political reasons. Thus the State Ministries are often at the mercy of the Prime Minister.

4. Under the current set-up, almost everything is concentrated in Delhi. All the important decisions concerning the vast majority of Congress-governed States are taken in Delhi. Most of the Chief Ministers are in the Union Capital once or twice a week, sometimes even more often, to meet the P.M. and seek her advice and guidance. They know that their political future depends upon Mrs Gandhi's pleasure. The excuse given is that only a personal visit can eliminate red-tapism, but it is noteworthy that Delhi has become the pilgrimage centre for most Chief Ministers. It is Mrs Gandhi who decides their fate and chooses their Ministers, not the Chief Ministers acting in their own wisdom and judgement.

Arguments Against

1. Dictatorial trends generally end up in major setbacks, and Mrs Gandhi knows this well enough on the basis of her experience of the Emergency period the excesses of which caused her a major political defeat when the Congress (I) was ousted from power and the Janata Party swept the polls in many States. This recognition has sobered her and people have noticed that she is milder in manner and less authoritarian in temperament.

2. Compare the wide powers, patronage and influence of the President of the U.S.A. He can make wars, manoeuvre things in such a way as to topple governments in many other countries, win over tottering regimes, challenge any power on earth, including the Soviet Union and China. Mrs Gandhi, in comparison, is a weak Prime Minister who depends upon others for keeping her position. She does not command even a

tenth of the influence and power in international affairs which the U.S. President commands.

3. The contrast in position and power becomes even more glaring when we compare the immense powers enjoyed by Heads of Government of the Communist countries with those of Mrs Gandhi. The Soviet or the Chinese Prime Minister, for instance, are powerful men, with the whole apparatus of State at their disposal and at their back and call. Mrs Gandhi appears to be a tiny, frail figure as compared to the Prime Ministers of those countries. They do not have to depend upon the pleasure and sanction of Parliament, while Mrs Gandhi has to reckon with the Parliament whose explicit or implicit approval of all Governmental actions is essential. Parliament is, in fact, sovereign and the Prime Minister and her colleagues can hold office only so long as they command the confidence of Parliament. But the U.S. President is free of any fear of Congress since he occupies an independent status in the Presidential system that prevails in that country.

4. The pressures on Delhi (in effect on the Prime Minister) to strengthen the autonomy of the States are growing, and any move that smacks of domination by the Centre is resented. Mrs Gandhi cannot take the consent of the non-Congress States (Tamil Nadu, Kerala, West Bengal) for granted. She can hardly afford to act in a dictatorial manner because these rebellious States already refuse to co-operate with the Centre on many issues and they insist on effective participation and sharp trimming of the Centre's sphere of activity.

India's Huge Defence Expenditure

Q. "The rapid and sizable increase in India's defence budget

does not ensure the country's security and should be reduced." Do you accept this view? Give reasons *For and Against* it.

Ans. India's defence budget has grown many times over since Independence, and is now put at Rs. 3600 crores annually. A part of the increase is due to the unchecked inflation and the mounting prices of defence equipment as well as the ever-soaring wage bill (salaries, allowances and other amenities payable to, or to be provided for, defence personnel). But apart from these, highly expensive aircraft including bombers, interceptors, deep penetration planes, submarines and a large number of sophisticated items, especially in the field of modern electronics, are being ordered in a frantic bid to equip the country's Army, Air Force and Navy with the latest equipment the country can get—all under the impression that the country must be fully prepared for all exigencies and must never be caught unprepared, as happened when the Chinese invaded India and virtually walked across the territory it chose to seize. But is all this expenditure absolutely necessary and does it really ensure security in proportion to the heavy investment? Can the country afford all this expenditure? Must we join a suicidal arms race with Pakistan? These questions need a close study in the national interest. India is a country where half the people live below the poverty line. Is it to be guns or bread?

Arguments For the View

1. The concept of modernisation, specialised equipment and integrated military techniques has evidently been carried too far; in any case, much of the "modernisation" process is futile and a virtual waste of money because by the time this country actually receives and commissions, or at any rate puts them in battle shape and

familiarises military personnel with the manner of their use and the complex techniques involved, the weapons become outdated and outpaced by others devised by the Big Powers.

2. A country's security cannot be ensured merely by spending crores of rupees on military, weapons and other equipment. Active backing of the civilian people and their whole-hearted involvement are also necessary, but of this there are no signs even till this day.

3. The waste through delays, dithering and bureaucratic practices and indecision at the top in the country's military establishments and ordnance factories seems to be endless. Several reports of ill-fated defence projects for manufacturing certain equipment have been submitted by the Audit Reports on the Defence Services. According to the report for 1978-79, an aircraft development project sanctioned in September, 1972, which was originally expected to be ready in about three years had not been completed in all respects even after seven years. The number of aircraft manufactured by a Government Undertaking (investment Rs. 13.5 crores) and accepted by the Air Force after relaxing certain important operational parameters had not (until 1979) been cleared for operation after flight-testing.

4. Besides, several aircraft and other equipment manufactured in Indian military establishments have been found to be below the required standards, and therefore not put to use. The examples of MK-I and MK-II aircraft are often quoted to prove this point. These planes could not meet the operational requirements, such as the radius of action.

5. The drive (and accepted policy) for self-reliance in military equipment, launched at great expense, has made only

some headway. The craze in New Delhi still is to import newly designed aircraft and other latest equipment, regardless of the cost. Note the unsatisfactory reports given by some military commanders about the Vijayanta tank which is fitted with 105 mm field guns. Its performance has been found to be unsatisfactory, as compared to similar tanks manufactured abroad. The defence expenditure increases greatly with the costly imports of sophisticated weapons systems from the U.S.A., Britain and other countries.

6. The tendency to keep everything secret helps the Government to hide the setbacks and failures. The plans and the progress in defence spheres are not generally divulged. In the U.S.A. most of the defence plans and even nuclear programmes are known, but that country's state of preparedness has not suffered thereby. Not all military information need be publicised, but as much as can be safely given and is known to our neighbours may be shared with the Indian public. This would have a healthy effect and facilitate greater involvement.

Arguments Against

1. National security must in all cases receive the highest priority, regardless of the cost. Any government that does not ensure full military preparations for defence purposes, or is caught unawares and unprepared in case of an attack by an aggressor, fails in its basic duty and does not deserve to remain in office.

2. The argument that there is some waste in the process of manufacturing aircraft and other equipment is nothing unusual. In fact, much more is spent by other countries, and of course the Big Powers, the U.S.A., Russia, Britain and France, on defence research. Many of the prototypes and models they

prepare have to be discarded because of some technical flaw or other. The fact that some models have not come up to the required standard should not discourage us from continuing our efforts to attain self-sufficiency in as many defence items as possible.

3. There is no doubt that it is the man behind the gun and the controls who matters more than the equipment. The Government of India is laying much stress on military training and maintaining the morale of civilians because patriotism can turn the tables against ever powerful rivals. We have the fine example of the Vietnamese who defeated the Americans in a prolonged tussle by sheer courage and determination. Although India has perhaps the finest manpower potential, the latest military equipment is essential. Man by himself, however brave, can do nothing against bombers and the latest tanks and submarines.

4. It is true that considerable equipment has been ordered from abroad (some even from the U.S.A. from where no military weapons or devices were obtained for several years), but the fact is that it is a futile attempt to try to manufacture in this country equipment for which we do not possess the necessary technology. It is only the Big Powers which are self-sufficient in military equipment; the other countries, including giant China, import some devices or other to complete their requirements.

5. As for the soaring Defence budget, the sharp increase is due to the hike in the prices of imported items (there can be no bargaining in such cases) much of the increase is due to the enhanced salaries and allowances of military personnel and the higher pensions being paid to retired personnel. All

branches and categories of officers and the Jawans have to be paid well to avoid discontent. This explains the upward revision of the pay scales of officers and of various ranks announced some weeks ago and the greater chances of promotion promised to them by increasing the strength of officers' cadres at many levels so as to assure them a brighter future.

Election Campaigns

Q. "Election campaigns should be short and infrequent, as in India, and not long and extensive as in the U.S.A." Do you agree with this view? Give reasons *For* and *Against* it.

Ans. The duration of election campaigns differs from country to country according to the system prevalent in each case which, in turn, is based on the rules and regulations. In India the Election Commission, an impartial, Constitutional and continuous organisation, fixes the dates for each election, the intervals between the nominations and the actual polls after the Government of the day decides to hold a poll (in the case of a normal election held after every five years, as required by law, no Government decision is necessary). In India there are set rules about the gap between the announcement of about holding an election and the final poll. In the U.S.A. the party campaigns for the Presidential elections are much longer and last for about nine months, even longer. The American practice has its advantages as well as its faults; while a long tussle enables the voter to assess the relative merits of each candidate over a period of time, it means considerable and wholly avoidable waste of time, money and energy.

Arguments *For* the View

1. The issues in a Presidential election in the U.S.A.

are quite clear, and the choice is also evident because there are only two principal political parties, the Democrats and the Republicans, whose programmes and policies are well known. So it is pointless to waste the American nation's time over the electoral campaigns for nine months or longer. The process can certainly be shortened and made more compact.

2. The advance of technology, especially in the information and propaganda media, now makes it possible for the party organisers to inform the electorate quickly so that everyone knows what the issues at stake are, what each of the two principal candidates stands for and what would be the shape of the White House and Pentagon policies when either of the two aspirants succeeds. So there is no point in making the election campaign in the U.S.A. a prolonged affair. The speeches and announcements inevitably become repetitive.

3. The American electorate, highly advanced, literate and politically conscious as it is, certainly gets bored with election speeches, poll fever at a high pitch and subscription dinners, month after month. This extensive boredom, and in part disillusionment, leads to a lower percentage of voting, and the turnout at the polling booths tends to be smaller.

4. The long and tedious campaigns often lead to an underhand and generally scandalous search for skeletons in the cupboard, weak and vulnerable spots in family history, questionable land and business dealings of rival leaders, all in a furtive bid to spring surprises at the last minute; in fact, plans to discredit the other candidate are drawn up by professional campaign organisers step by step envisaging the use of "hidden weapons". This is hitting below the belt and is wholly

avoidable by having a short and economical poll campaign.

Arguments *Against* the View

1. It is only through a long and leisurely campaign that each candidate's entire personality, his strong and weak points, his potential for leadership, his grasp over current affairs and his capacity to serve the country as Head of Government and of State can be found. It is better to make a considered decision instead of a hasty one because the nation's future for at least four years is to be entrusted to one of the aspirants for the Presidency.

2. The Americans argue that the length and arduousness of the poll campaigns enables the people to penetrate into the field of vision of many people; the longer a candidate is exposed to public scrutiny at a long series of public meetings, TV debates, etc., the greater the likelihood of his character, sense of judgement and instincts being properly perceived by the electorate.

3. Electoral campaigns are always educative as well as informative. Many people who are too busy otherwise get an opportunity only during sustained election campaigns to learn what the stakes of the nation are; what a President in office has done during his term, what the tests of performance must be and what the essential qualities should be while assessing the rival candidates' qualities for fitness to occupy the White House. Long campaigns have a corrective value which is lacking in short drives.

4. During brief campaigns fewer people would have the opportunity to see personally, at close range, and hear the prospective Head of State—perhaps the most powerful executive in the world. Thus an objective and more accurate assessment is possible; otherwise, the millions of Americans

have to rely on the massive written and oral propaganda, through the press, TV and other information media, which is in reality conducted by "ghost writers" and public relations specialists. Besides, a shorter election campaign is easy to advocate but difficult to practise because of the elaborate procedures of nominations by primaries of various kinds and in all the 50 States, and then the indirect system of elections, choice through an electoral college, makes the process time-consuming.

Another Emergency in India ?

Q. "The country is ripe for another spell of Emergency and that would be the best remedy for the multifaceted chaos and confusion currently prevailing in the country." Give reasons *For* and *Against* this view.

Ans. In recent months the social, economic and political conditions in India have rapidly deteriorated; there is considerable confusion, discontentment, a worsening of the law and order situation and of the economic conditions. Anti-social elements, including corrupt people, profiteers and hoarders, have been active, taking full advantage of the indecision and lack of firmness at the highest levels in the country. Discipline is fast disappearing from several fields of activity. All these conditions seem to indicate the need for a drastic remedy such as the Emergency. On the other hand, the unhappy and soul-chilling experience of the last spell of Emergency from June, 1975, to February, 1977, prevents many people even from suggesting that Emergency should be declared again to meet the existing situation for which there appears to be no effective remedy. But several questions arise in this context. Will another Emergency be tolerated by the people?

The very term "Emergency" stinks. Will the Government be willing to take the risk of imposing another internal Emergency and forget the bitter reaction of the electorate which, in a sharp rebuff, voted out Mrs Gandhi in March, 1977, to express its strong disapproval of the Emergency?

Arguments *For* the View

1. Who can question the assessment that the social, economic and political situation in the country has deteriorated fast in recent months? How long should the Government led by Mrs Gandhi tolerate such conditions? Surely the situation calls for a drastic remedy which alone would have a deterrent effect and stop the anti-social elements from indulging in their nefarious activities. The existing conditions are in many ways as disconcerting, and pose as severe a challenge to the administration, as the pre-Emergency situation in 1977.

2. There have never been so many communal riots involving such heavy loss of life and property in the country as in recent months. Evidently, mischief-mongers have become active; they acquire weapons of all sorts from various sources, including Pakistan, and the illicit arms factories within the country. Thousands of revolvers have been seized from various hideouts, and no fewer than 15,000 small bombs and hand-grenades were recovered from a mosque in Lucknow. Can all this be tolerated? There are more arsenals in U.P. towns than in the whole of Britain.

3. The disturbances, the riots and the rank profiteering apart, the highly disturbed conditions verging on insurgency and secession threats in the North-Eastern States, and the unprecedented challenge to Authority posed in Assam by the agitation of students supported

by all sections of the people, including Government employees, have all created a dangerous, explosive situation which necessitates drastic measures. The very fact that the Central Government has found it necessary to issue scores of ordinances during the past few months, including that for preventive detention and other sweeping powers proves that the situation in the country is very risky and a declaration of Emergency would be the most effective remedy.

Arguments *Against* the View

1. In 1976-77 there was an open challenge to authority; open defiance of the law, threatening the existence of the administration itself and openly inciting people to throw out the Government. There is no J.P.-type of movement this time, no call to the police and the military, to rise in protest, disobey "illegal orders" and create indiscipline. The disturbed conditions at present can be handled with the powers already acquired by the Government.

2. Mrs Gandhi knows that imposition of the Emergency under the Constitution would arouse hostility and revive bitter memories which are best forgotten. She does not wish to become unpopular, nor risk another defeat in the next general election. It was the Emergency that brought about her downfall early in 1977. So she will probably curb her dictatorial instincts and find other means to control the present disorderly situation.

3. Before the last election Mrs Gandhi made a commitment "not to impose Emergency for another thousand years." A declaration of Emergency may, therefore, prove a disaster to her future.

4. At present the Opposition parties are hopelessly divided and badly split into factions,

(*Contd. on page 312*)

General Knowledge Test

Q. Name the following:

(i) Winner of the Himalayan car rally;

(ii) President-elect of the U.S.A. Is he a Republican or a Democrat i.e., belonging to the Republican Party or Democratic Party of the U.S.A. ?

(iii) Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh;

(iv) Prime Minister of Yugoslavia;

(v) Prime Minister of the Soviet Union;

(vi) Leader of the British Labour Party who resigned recently;

(vii) Governor of Maharashtra;

(viii) President and Prime Minister of Surinam;

(ix) Prime Minister of Dominican;

(x) Prime Minister of New Zealand.

Ans. (i) Shekhar Mehta;

(ii) Ronald Reagan; Republican;

(iii) T. Anjiah;

(iv) Veselin Djuranovic;

(v) Nikolai Tikhonov;

(vi) James Callaghan;

(vii) O.P. Mehra;

(viii) Dr Henk Chin-a-Sen;

(ix) Miss Mary Eugenia Charles;

(x) Robert Muldoon.

Q. (i) Who has been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1980?

(ii) Who has been awarded the 1980 Nobel Prize in Literature? To which country does he belong?

(iii) What is the amount (in dollars) a 1980 Nobel Prize carry?

(iv) Who has been awarded the 1980 Nobel Prize in Economics?

(v) Name the British film director who is currently venturing to produce a film on Mahatma Gandhi.

(vi) Who is Kim Jong Il? Why was he in the news recently?

Ans. (i) Adolfo Poros Esquivel (of Argentina).

(ii) Czeslaw Miloz; Poland (He is a Polish writer living in exile in the U.S.A. since 1960).

(iii) \$ 2,12,000 (8,80,000 Kronor).

(iv) Prof Lawrence Klein (of U.S.A.).

(v) Sir Richard Attenborough.

(vi) He is son of President Kim Il Sung of North Korea. He was in the news having been installed as heir apparent to the aging king.

Q. Where are the following places and why have they been in the news recently?

(i) Abadan; (ii) Shatt-Al-Arab; (iii) El-Asnam.

Ans. (i) Abadan: in Iran is known for one of the world's biggest oil refineries in the world. It became inoperative when during recent Iraq-Iran war the refinery was heavily bombed and put in flames by Iraqi air force.

(ii) Shatt-Al-Arab: It is the disputed waterway (river) which marks the frontier between Iraq and Iran. It is Iraq's only outlet to the sea. It runs between the two countries at the head of the Gulf where heavy fighting has been going on for control of the waterway.

(iii) El-Asnam: is the name of a city in Western Algeria. It was in the news in October 1980, when it was hit by two devastating earthquakes levelling the whole town and trapping nearly 50,000 people beneath the debris.

Q. What is the new space endurance record? Name the Russian cosmonauts who have set this record.

Ans. 185 days. This new space endurance record was set by two Russian cosmonauts viz., Valery Ryumin and Leonid Popov on October 2, 1980.

Q. What important events in Indian history took place in the following years?

(i) 273 B.C.; (ii) 1757 A.D.;
(iii) 1905 A.D.; (iv) 1948 ; (v)
1962.

Ans. (i) 273 B.C.: Accession of Ashoka, the Great.

(ii) 1757 A.D.: Battle of Plassey.

(iii) 1905 A.D.: First Partition of Bengal.

(iv) 1948: Assassination of Mahatma Gandhi.

(v) 1962: Chinese invasion of India.

Q. Explain the historical significance of the following (25-30 words each):

(i) Akbar; (ii) Robert Walpole; (iii) Bismarck; (iv) Lokmanya Tilak; (v) Oliver Cromwell.

Ans. (i) **Akbar** (1556-1605): He was the greatest of the Mughal Emperors in India. He founded a new religion Din-i-Elahi. He is known for reforms in land revenue administration, religious toleration, abolition of pilgrim tax and *Jazia*.

(ii) **Robert Walpole**: (1676-1745) was the first Prime Minister of England. He was a great 18th century Whig statesman who sat in the House of Commons for over forty years. He was Prime Minister of Britain for the record period of 21 years. He was a great financial expert. His management of national debt, encouragement of trade and industry made England materially very prosperous.

(iii) **Bismarck**: (1815-1898) was the most capable and prominent of the German statesmen of the 19th century, popularly known for his *blood and iron policy*. He founded the German Empire.

(iv) **Lokmanya Tilak**: known as "Father of the Indian Unrest", was a great political leader and profound religious scholar (author of *Gita Rahasya*—a commentary on the *Bhagwad Gita*). He founded the Home Rule League in 1916.

(v) **Oliver Cromwell**: (1599-1658) He was a soldier statesman of England who became one of the Parliamentary leaders and became General of the Roundheads at the outbreak of the Civil War. He established *Commonwealth* in Britain and was installed at the head of the Commonwealth after the execution of Charles I.

Q. What do the following terms mean?

(i) Charge d'affaires; (ii) Party Whip; (iii) Ombudsman; (iv) Hydroponics; (v) Ikebana.

Ans. (i) **Charge d'affaires**: (French) A diplomatic agent of a lesser rank, accredited, not to the sovereign, but to the department of foreign affairs and holding his credentials from the minister: the person in charge for the time being; a temporary substitute for an ambassador.

(ii) **Party Whip**: an M.P. responsible to his party for the organisation of the members to carry the vote through—one who enforces the attendance of a political party and makes calls on members of the Parliament to be in their places against an important division.

(iii) **Ombudsman**: is a legislative commissioner for the investigation of citizens' complaints of bureaucratic abuse—appointed by the Legislature.

(iv) **Hydroponics**: is the practice and science of growing plants without using soil by feeding them on nutrient solutions.

(v) **Ikebana**: is the Japanese art of flower arrangement.

Q. How was Mahatma Gandhi associated with the following places:

(i) Porbandar; (ii) Champaran; (iii) Chauri Chaura; (iv) Poona; (v) Noakhali.

Ans. (i) **Porbandar**: in Kathiawar (Gujarat) was the place at which Gandhiji was born on October 2, 1869.

(ii) **Champaran**: In 1917 Gandhiji led a satyagraha movement in Champaran (Bihar) to get redressed the grievances of ryots against indigo-planters.

(iii) **Chauri Chaura**: in U.P. was the scene of mob violence after Gandhiji launched a mass campaign of civil disobedience in February 1922. As a protest against mob-violence, Gandhiji called off the movement.

(iv) **Poona**: In 1932 Gandhiji went on a fast against the communal award which was to segregate the Harijans from the Hindus by separate electorates. Gandhiji undertook a fast to resist the award and was able to work out a solution at a representative conference attended by Dr B.R. Ambedkar, a leader of the depressed classes, at Poona. This was called the Poona Pact.

(v) **Noakhali**: In the winter of 1946-47 Gandhiji walked barefoot from village to village in the communal riot-infested areas of the Noakhali and Tipera districts of East Bengal to spread his gospel of non-violence to the Hindus and the Muslims.

Q. Why are the following names important in Indian history?

(i) Banabhatta; (ii) Kalhana; (iii) Alberuni; (iv) Bairam Khan; (v) Nanda Kumar.

Ans. (i) **Banabhatta**: He was the most celebrated of the learned men and court poet of Harshavardhana. He is author of *Harshacharita* and *Kadambati*. He was the greatest master of Sanskrit prose in his time.

(ii) **Kalhana**: He was poet historian of Kashmir. He lived in the 11th century A.D. He is author of *Rajatarangini*, his masterpiece.

(iii) **Alberuni**: He was a celebrated historian who visited India in company with the armies of Mahmud of Ghazni.

(iv) **Bairam Khan**: He was the tutor and guardian of

Akbar, the Great. Akbar acquired the throne of Delhi through his efforts. He was known as *Khan-i-Khana*.

(v) **Nanda Kumar:** He was a Brahmin of high rank who held an important position in Siraj-ud-Daulah's Government. In March 1775, he charged Warren Hastings, the then Governor-General, with having accepted presents to the tune of many lakhs among which were Rs. 3½ lakhs from Munni Begum, widow of the treacherous Mir Jafar, for her appointment as guardian of her minor son.

Before Nanda Kumar could place his evidence, Warren Hastings stage-managed his prosecution for forgery. Nanda Kumar was tried and sentenced to death.

Q. Write about 200 words each on the following:

(i) Responsibility of the Union Government to Parliament in India;

(ii) Equality under the Indian Constitution.

Ans. (i) Union Government's responsibility to Parliament: In every Parliamentary system, the Government is fully responsible and accountable to the legislature. This, in fact, is the distinguishing feature of a parliamentary system based on the British pattern, as against the Presidential form of government on the American model. Ministerial responsibility is the essence of the Cabinet system, and collective responsibility is Britain's principle contribution to modern political practice. Ministers are individually responsible for the functioning of the departments under their charge. They also share collective responsibility with other members of the government on anything of importance done in any branch of public business. The ministry functions as a unit and presents a common front before the legislature.

The Indian Constitution provides for the collective responsibility of the Council of Ministers to the Lok Sabha. They remain in office only so long as they retain the confidence of the Lok Sabha. This confidence remains only so long as the Government commands a majority in the Lok Sabha. There is no provision for individual responsibility in the Lok Sabha under the Indian Constitution. The rules of procedure of parliament also provide for a motion of no-confidence in the Council of Ministers and not in any individual Minister.

(ii) **Right of Equality:** Equality before the law is one of the most important fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution. Article 14 states that the State shall not deny to any person equality before the law or the equal protection of laws within Indian territory.

Article 15 prohibits discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth. No citizen can, on any of these grounds, be subjected to any disability or restriction with regard to access to shops, public restaurants, hotels and places of public entertainment or the use of wells, tanks, bathing ghats, roads and places of public resort maintained out of State Funds.

Article 16 guarantees equality of opportunity in matters of public appointment. But there are specific exemptions. A legislature can make special provisions for women and children, for the advancement of socially and educationally backward classes and for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Besides, Parliament may confine employment under a State or local authority to the local residents. Under Article 42, the States may also provide for reservations in appointments of posts for backward classes.

Q. Answer the following:

(i) What is the main harmful drug found in tobacco?

(ii) When does an equinox occur?

(iii) What is meant by cusec?

(iv) What is our National Bird?

(v) When does a person legally come of age in India?

Ans. (i) Nicotine; (ii) March 21 and September 22; (iii) It is flow of one cubic foot (of water) per second (unit in irrigation engineering); (iv) Peacock; (v) When a person completes 18 years of age.

Q. How are the temperate grasslands in the following geographical regions called?

(i) Europe and Asia; (ii) North America; (iii) South America; (iv) South Africa; (v) Australia.

Ans. (i) Steppes; (ii) Prairies; (iii) Pampas; (iv) Veldt; (v) Downs.

Argumentative Questions

(Contd. from page 309)

thus becoming ineffective and ceasing to present any alternative to the present Government. Imposition of Emergency would provide a unity platform for all Opposition groups because on that issue—denial of Fundamental Rights and freedoms to the people—most opposition groups and others would readily come together and form a united front to defeat Mrs Gandhi and her party.

5. **Home Minister Zail Singh**, replying to a question recently, declared: "Emergency? Never again." Surely, Mrs Gandhi and her active supporters would not like to lose all credibility by going back on their words. They would be accused of false promises.

Objective-Type Tests

GENERAL STUDIES

The latest pattern of written papers in the competitive examinations for recruitment in Banking, Civil and Defence Services is based on Objective-Type Tests.

Answers are given at the end of this feature. Look to the answers only after you have yourself solved all the questions.

Work as fast and as carefully as you can.

Tick-mark the correct choice.

More than one choice can be correct.

1. The 1980 Nobel Prize for Literature has been awarded to an exiled:

- (a) Russian writer
- (b) Czech writer
- (c) Polish writer

2. Iran's oil refinery in Abadan is:

- (a) Asia's biggest oil refinery
- (b) World's biggest oil refinery
- (c) One of the world's biggest oil refinery

3. A second steel plant in Orissa is being set up at:

- (a) Rourkela
- (b) Paradeep
- (c) Bhubaneshwar

4. The new space endurance record set by two Russian cosmonauts is of:

- (a) 175 days
- (b) 180 days
- (c) 185 days

5. The purpose of World Bank is:

- (a) to lend money
- (b) to re-build war-torn areas
- (c) to develop under-developed areas

6. The headquarters of the International Labour Organisation is situated in:

(a) Moscow

- (b) Zlin
- (c) Geneva
- (d) Berne

7. Which of the following countries is not a member of the U.N.O.:

- (a) North Korea
- (b) German Democratic Republic
- (c) Switzerland
- (d) China

8. The U.N. Security Council remains in session:

- (a) from Sept. 29 to Dec. 31
- (b) for six months beginning from 1st January
- (c) throughout the year

9. What is the number of Permanent Members of the U.N. Security Council?

- (a) 5
- (b) 10
- (c) 15

10. Which of the following statements is true:

- (a) India is a permanent member of the U.N.O.
- (b) India is not a permanent member of the U.N.O.
- (c) India relinquished permanent membership of the U.N.O. to join the non-aligned group of nations

11. The age of retirement of a Judge of the Supreme Court is:

- (a) 62 years
- (b) 64 years
- (c) 65 years

12. The national animal of India is:

- (a) Tiger
- (b) Lion
- (c) Deer

13. Which statement is true:

- (a) The President of India is a member of Parliament
- (b) The President of India is a member of State Legislature
- (c) The President of India is neither a member of Parliament nor is he a member of any State Legislature

14. Zambezi is:

- (a) a tribe in Africa
- (b) a river in Africa
- (c) a lake in Africa

15. Yellowstone is the name of a:

- (a) diamond
- (b) rock
- (c) river
- (d) lake

16. Vienna is the capital town of:

- (a) Austria
- (b) Australia
- (c) Sweden
- (d) Norway

17. Kilimanjaro is:
 (a) a mountain peak
 (b) the biggest diamond market in the world
 (c) a fortified citadel
 (d) an industrial centre

18. Corbett National Park is in:
 (a) Madhya Pradesh
 (b) Himachal Pradesh
 (c) Uttar Pradesh
 (d) Andhra Pradesh

19. The Game Sanctuary which is the centre of one-horned rhinos is known as:
 (a) Kaziranga Game Sanctuary
 (b) Periyar Game Sanctuary
 (c) Bandipur Sanctuary

20. Baghdad is situated on the river:
 (a) Tiber
 (b) Tigris
 (c) Nile

21. Scotland Yard:
 (a) is a big shed in London where railway engines are parked
 (b) was originally an area just off Whitehall in London
 (c) the headquarters of the metropolitan police of London (England)

22. Nicolaus Copernicus (1473-1543), a prominent astronomer of Poland, discovered:
 (a) radium
 (b) South America
 (c) Solar System
 (d) Seismograph

23. Wheat is a:
 (a) Rabi crop
 (b) Kharif crop
 (c) Cash crop

24. Comets move round the:
 (a) earth
 (b) stars
 (c) sun

25. Peninsula is a stretch of land surrounded by:
 (a) islands
 (b) water
 (c) mountains
 (d) hills

26. Gulf Stream is a warm ocean current emerging from the:
 (a) Gulf of Mexico
 (b) Persian Gulf
 (c) Strait of Hormuz

27. The imaginary line encircling the earth at equal distance from the Poles is called:
 (a) Equinox
 (b) Equator
 (c) Epicentre

28. Natural springs which, at more or less regular intervals, explosively eject into air columns of steam and hot water are known as:
 (a) Geyser
 (b) Glaciers
 (c) Great Bear

29. Indian Standard Time is in advance of the Greenwich Time exactly by:
 (a) $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours
 (b) $5\frac{1}{2}$ hours
 (c) $6\frac{1}{2}$ hours

30. Durgapur in West Bengal is known for:
 (a) steel plant
 (b) locomotive factory
 (c) fertilizer factory
 (d) ship-building yard

31. The town in India famous for diamond mines is:
 (a) Kolar
 (b) Khetri
 (c) Panna

32. Haldia, near Calcutta, is known for:
 (a) cement factory
 (b) oil refinery
 (c) steel plant
 (d) paper mill

33. The French soldier is called:
 (a) Poolu
 (b) Tomy Atkins
 (c) G.I.

34. Durand Line is the frontier line which runs between:
 (a) the Soviet Union and Afghanistan
 (b) Iran and Iraq
 (c) Afghanistan and Pakistan

35. The currency of Sweden is called:
 (a) Kroner
 (b) Koruna
 (c) Guilder

36. "Little Corporal" is the alternative name given to:
 (a) Duke of Wellington
 (b) Adolf Hitler
 (c) Napoleon Bonaparte

37. Who was known as *Lady of the Lamp*?
 (a) Joan of Arc
 (b) Annie Besant
 (c) Mother of Auroville
 (d) Florence Nightingale

38. In which field did Epstein distinguish himself?
 (a) painting
 (b) sculpture
 (c) music

39. Slavery was abolished in the U.S.A. by:
 (a) George Washington
 (b) Thomas Jefferson
 (c) Abraham Lincoln

40. The civilization which developed on the banks of the Tiber is known as:
 (a) Egyptian
 (b) Roman
 (c) Sumerian

41. Salisbury is the capital of:
 (a) Seychelles
 (b) Zimbabwe
 (c) Nigeria
 (d) Ghana

42. On October 9 last, the Soviet Union signed a twenty-year friendship treaty with:
 (a) Iran
 (b) Iraq
 (c) Syria
 (d) Jordan

43. At which location of the earth will the same object weigh the least?
 (a) North Pole

(b) South Pole
 (c) Equator
 (d) Tropic of Capricorn

44. As seen from the earth, which planet passes through phases similar to those of moon?
 (a) Pluto
 (b) Mars
 (c) Venus
 (d) Jupiter

45. Travelling at the speed of light, the moon is less than:
 (a) two seconds away
 (b) five seconds away
 (c) one minute away
 (d) two minutes away

46. Each night the moon rises:
 (a) a little earlier
 (b) a little later
 (c) about the same time
 (d) in the West

47. The phase of the moon during an eclipse of the sun is:
 (a) full
 (b) half
 (c) new
 (d) in any phase

48. The tilting of the earth's axis causes:
 (a) the sun's rays to slope
 (b) differences in climate
 (c) the seasons

49. The place on the earth's surface directly above the point at which an earthquake originates is the:
 (a) epicentre
 (b) focus
 (c) Zenith

50. As the earth's distance from the sun decreases, its orbital speed:
 (a) decreases
 (b) increases
 (c) remains the same

51. As the waves approach the land mass, the length of the ocean waves:
 (a) increases
 (b) decreases
 (c) remains the same

52. The planets are kept in motion in their orbits by:
 (a) rotation of the sun on its axis
 (b) gravitational and centrifugal force
 (c) their great size and spherical shape
 (d) their rotation and density

53. The atmosphere is held to the earth by:
 (a) winds
 (b) clouds
 (c) gravity
 (d) the rotation of the earth

54. Which is most likely to occur when an ocean surface is cooler than the adjacent land surface?
 (a) sea breeze
 (b) land breeze
 (c) trade winds

55. Which instrument provides the greatest amount of information about stars?
 (a) anemometer
 (b) spectroscope
 (c) oscilloscope

56. The greatest number of stars exist in:
 (a) a star cluster
 (b) the solar system
 (c) a comet
 (d) a galaxy

57. A sudden fall in barometer usually indicates:
 (a) the passing of a storm centre
 (b) the approach of an anticyclone
 (c) a rapidly falling temperature

58. The greatest mass of the atmosphere is found in the:
 (a) ionosphere
 (b) exosphere
 (c) troposphere

59. The sun is the centre of:
 (a) all the stars
 (b) the solar system
 (c) the Milky Way

60. Etna in Sicily is the name of:
 (a) an island
 (b) a port
 (c) a volcanic mountain

61. Estuary is formed:
 (a) when a river leaves the mountains and enters the plains
 (b) at the source of a river
 (c) at the mouth of a river

62. Delta is formed:
 (a) near the mouth of the river
 (b) at the source of the river
 (c) when a river passes through a lake

63. The Equatorial type of climate produces:
 (a) hot, wet forests
 (b) grasslands
 (c) nothing

64. A small waterfall or a series of falls resembling steps is called:
 (a) carse
 (b) cascade
 (c) canyon

ANSWERS

1. (c)	2. (a) and (c)
3. (b)	4. (c)
5. (a), (b) and (c)	6. (c)
7. (a) and (c)	8. (c)
9. (a)	10. (b)
11. (c)	12. (a)
13. (c)	14. (b)
15. (d)	16. (a)
17. (a)	18. (c)
19. (a)	20. (b)
21. (b) and (c)	22. (c)
23. (a)	24. (c)
25. (b)	26. (a)
27. (b)	28. (a)
29. (b)	30. (a)
31. (c)	32. (b)
33. (a)	34. (c)
35. (a)	36. (c)
37. (d)	38. (b)
39. (c)	40. (b)
41. (b)	42. (c)
43. (c)	44. (c)
45. (a)	46. (b)
47. (c)	48. (c)
49. (a)	50. (b)
51. (b)	52. (b)
53. (c)	54. (a)
55. (b)	56. (d)
57. (a)	58. (c)
59. (b)	60. (c)
61. (c)	62. (a)
63. (a)	64. (b)

Objective-Type Tests

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Look to the answers at the end only after you have yourself solved all the questions.

Work as fast and as carefully as you can.

Q. I. A mistake occurs in one of the three parts into which each sentence is divided. Indicate by its number this part in each case.

(a) He was a brilliant student at school (1) but since then he has deteriorated (2) and I doubt that he will get a pass (3).

(b) The decision of the police in raiding the club (1) was just a stab in the dark (2) but they found their man there (3).

(c) He wished to attain the biblical span (1) of three scores and ten, but a week back (2) the good man breathed his last (3).

(d) It has been learnt that (1) they were always wrangling over small points (2) that most people would attach no importance (3).

(e) It is all very well to throw out your job (1) just because it does not suit you (2) but what about your wife and children? (3).

(f) We are determined to defend (1) and preserve our hardly-won freedom (2) whatever sacrifice we are called upon to make (3).

(g) I whistled not once but three times (1) but his attention was engrossed with (2) the happenings on the other side of the street (3).

(h) The resignation of the party leader (1) was the occasion for a fierce struggle (2) for power

among the two opposing factions (3).

(i) Some of the admirers of Shaw (1) regard him as great (2) or even greater than Shakespeare (3).

(j) Some people find him difficult to get on (1) but I can assure you that (2) he has always been all right with me (3).

(k) How should I come to know (1) what are his plans when (2) he is resolutely silent on the subject? (3).

(l) The financial state of the company is bad (1) and if anything is not done pretty soon (2) it will go from bad to worse (3).

Q. II. Pick out the appropriate alternative.

A. Sugar being very dear the sweet dish is now served in our hostel on _____.
(a) alternative days
(b) alternating days
(c) alternate days

B. The State Government has ordered a _____ inquiry into the so-called police excesses.
(a) judicious
(b) judicial
(c) justiciable

C. All the time we were at the dinner-table, the grandmother was busy _____ old socks.
(a) sewing
(b) stitching
(c) darning

D. It has been established that the police fired on the crowd as the _____.
(a) last recourse
(b) last resource
(c) last resort

E. The war will greatly affect the _____ of artists and musicians.
(a) wages
(b) income
(c) salary

Q. III. Insert the correct word to make the sentence a proverb.

(a) Old birds are not to be caught by (1. snares 2. traps 3. chaff).

(b) No one but the (1. cobbler 2. wearer 3. shop-keeper) knows where the shoe pinches.

(c) (1. Honey 2. Fruit 3. Butter) is not for the ass's mouth.

(d) There is small choice in (1. raw 2. ripe 3. rotten) apples.

(e) Two heads are better than (1. none 2. one 3. many).

Q. IV. Complete each sentence with the antonym of the word given within brackets.

(a) He was _____ at forgetting his wife's birthday. (proud).

(b) Ever since mother went to the hospital the house has been in a _____. (order).

(c) During a gasoline shortage big cars become a _____ in the market. (dearth).

(d) King Arthur's _____ deeds are the subject of many

stories in English literature. (cowardly).

(e) The troops — twenty miles into the enemy territory. (retreated).

Q. V. Replace the word said in the following sentences by one of the words given at the end. Use each word only once.

(a) "This teacher does not know what he is talking about", said a student to his neighbour.

(b) "If you can't come today, you simply must come tomorrow", she said to her friend.

(c) "Yes, I broke the glass-pane with my sling", said the boy to the house-owner.

(d) "Will you stop that noise in the class-room", said the teacher to the students.

(e) "You can't take me to prison. I know my rights", said the man to the constable.

admitted; insisted; protested; shouted; whispered.

Q. VI. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given at the end.

But the new thing is riches detached from real property: that is, detached from work, from responsibility, from tradition, and from every sort of prescribed routine, even from the routine of going to the village church every Sunday, paying and receiving calls, and having every month set apart for the killing of some particular bird or animal. It means being a tramp without the daily recurrent obligation to beg or steal your dinner and the price of your bed. Instead, you have the daily question "What shall I do? Where shall I go?" and the daily answer "Do what you please: go where you like: it does not matter what you do or where you go." In short, the perfect liberty of which slaves dream because they have no experience of its horrors. Of course the answer of outraged Nature is drowned for a time by the luxury

merchants shouting "Come and shop, whether you need anything or not. Come to our palace hotels. Come round the world in our liners. Come and wallow in our swimming pools. Come and see our latest model automobile; we have changed the inventor's design for better-for-worse solely to give you an excuse for buying a new one and selling your old one at scrap iron prices. Come and buy our latest fashions in dress; you cannot possibly be seen in last season's garments." And so on and so forth. But the old questions come home to the rich tourists in the palace hotels and luxury liners just as they do to the tramps on the high-road. They come up when you have the latest car and the latest wardrobe and all the rest of it. The only want that money can satisfy without satiating for more than a few hours is the need for food and drink and sleep. So from one serious meal a day and two minor ones you go on to three serious meals a day and two minor ones. Then you work another minor one between breakfast and lunch "to sustain you", and you soon find that you cannot tackle any meal without a cock-tail, and then you cannot sleep. That obliges you to resort to the latest soporific drug, guaranteed in the advertisements to have none of the ruinous effects of its equally guaranteed fore-runners. Then comes the doctor, with his tonics which are simply additional cock-tails, and his sure knowledge that if he tells you the truth about yourself and refuses to prescribe the tonics and the drugs, his children will starve. If you indulge in such a luxury as a clerical spiritual adviser it is his duty to tell you that what is the matter with you is that you are an idle useless glutton and drunkard and that you are going to hell, but alas! he, like the doctor, cannot afford this, as he may have to ask you for a sub-

scription tomorrow to keep his church going. And that is "Liberty: thou choicest treasure."

q. 1. Which of the following is the key-sentence in the passage?

(a) But the new thing is riches detached from real property.

(b) The only want that money can satisfy is the need for food and drink and sleep.

(c) Liberty, thou choicest treasure.

q. 2. Tick the most appropriate title to the passage:

(a) Life of a Tramp

(b) Craze for Luxurious Life Today

(c) Riches without Responsibility

q. 3. Arrange the following in the order in which they occur in the passage:

(a) The rich man goes on multiplying his meals.

(b) He is tempted by the owners of palace hotels.

(c) He tries to digest his meals with cock-tail.

(d) Like a tramp he has perfect liberty to go anywhere.

(e) The clergyman dare not speak out the truth to him.

q. 4. In what way is the rich man like a tramp?

(a) He has no work to do.
(Correct/Incorrect)

(b) He has the liberty to go anywhere.
(Correct/Incorrect)

(c) He has a fixed schedule.
(Correct/Incorrect)

(d) The questions before the richman as to the tramp are "What shall I do? Where shall I go?"
(Correct/Incorrect)

q. 5. What picture of the doctor and the clergy has been given by Shaw?

q. 6. What do the following words mean?

(Contd. on page 320)

Objective-Type Tests

EVERYDAY SCIENCE

Look to the answers at the end only after you have yourself solved all the questions.

Work as fast and as carefully as you can.

Tick-mark the correct answer out of the choices given.

1. Charcoal found in an ancient fireplace can be dated by the amount of radioactive:

- (a) carbon
- (b) iodine
- (c) phosphorus
- (d) fluorine

2. The chief raw material for the manufacture of paper is:

- (a) bamboo
- (b) jute
- (c) turpentine
- (d) cotton

3. Bakelite is used as a:

- (a) plastic
- (b) fibre
- (c) vitamin
- (d) synthetic rubber

4. An extremely poisonous gas is:

- (a) Nitrogen
- (b) carbon dioxide
- (c) carbon monoxide
- (d) hydrogen

5. Stainless steel contains:

- (a) Iron, cobalt, nickel
- (b) Iron, chromium, cobalt
- (c) Iron, nickel
- (d) Iron, chromium, nickel

6. Which property of sound source is related to the effect of sound on the ear known as pitch?

- (a) amplitude
- (b) intensity
- (c) quality
- (d) frequency

7. In every mechanical system, waves are associated with matter particles. This statement is credited to:

- (a) Planck
- (b) Einstein
- (c) Bohr
- (d) de Broglie

8. Our main source of artificial heat is :

- (a) chemical action
- (b) mechanical energy
- (c) electrical energy
- (d) fission reactions

9. A pendulum bob is swinging. Its potential energy is a minimum when the bob is :

- (a) at the top of its swing
- (b) beginning its downward swing
- (c) at the bottom of its swing
- (d) half way between the bottom and top of its swing

10. When a body is stationary:

- (a) there are no forces acting on it
- (b) the forces acting on it are not in contact with it
- (c) the various forces acting balance each other
- (d) the body is in a vacuum

11. The relationship between legumes and nitrogen-fixing bacteria is an example of:

- (a) parasitism

- (b) symbiosis
- (c) saprophytism
- (d) chemotropism

12. Hereditary variations in plants have been produced by the use of:

- (a) auxin
- (b) colchicine
- (c) gibberellic acid
- (d) ascorbic acid

13. Bats are classified as mammals because they have:

- (a) wings
- (b) vertebrae
- (c) four-chambered hearts
- (d) milk glands

14. Equal division of the chromosomes in a muscle cell occurs during the process of:

- (a) assimilation
- (b) metabolism
- (c) mitosis
- (d) symbiosis

15. A sperm cell has the haploid number of chromosomes because of :

- (a) cleavage
- (b) reduction division
- (c) fission
- (d) fertilisation

16. An infectious disease which affects motor neurons is:

- (a) pneumonia
- (b) polio
- (c) trichinosis
- (d) beri-beri

17. All communicable diseases are caused by :

- (a) bacteria

- (b) micro-organisms
- (c) unsanitary conditions
- (d) poor health habits

18. In order to decrease an abnormally high rate of metabolism, the surgeon may remove part of the:

- (a) adrenal gland
- (b) pancreas
- (c) pituitary gland
- (d) thyroid gland

19. Man's superiority to other animals in reasoning and memory is due to the greater development of the:

- (a) medulla
- (b) cerebrum
- (c) reflexes
- (d) spinal cord

20. The zygote will develop into a male child if the:

- (a) egg has a Y-chromosome
- (b) sperm has a Y-chromosome
- (c) sperm has an X-chromosome
- (d) zygote has two X-chromosomes

21. Visual tracking of a satellite refers to following its path through the heavens:

- (a) by radio
- (b) by radar
- (c) by X-rays
- (d) by sight

22. We can be sure that a traveller in outer space would not encounter:

- (a) cosmic rays
- (b) ultra-violet rays
- (c) X-rays
- (d) sound waves

23. The re-entry problem for an earth satellite is the result of:

- (a) the small size of the satellite
- (b) the interruption of radio communication
- (c) the relative density of the atmosphere
- (d) failure of the rocket mechanism

24. A mulch is made by:

- (a) packing the soil down

- (b) loosening the soil
- (c) irrigating the soil
- (d) draining the soil

25. Dry farming is accomplished by:

- (a) irrigation
- (b) drainage
- (c) mulching
- (d) rotation of crops ✓

Increases (I); Decreases (D); Remains the same (RS)

26. When the speed of an aeroplane increases, the lifting force on its wings—.

27. If the speed of revolution of the earth about its axis increases, the weight of the body on its surface—.

28. When the volume of saturated vapours is reduced at constant temperature, their pressure—.

29. When a body is heated, its weight—.

30. The temperature of a copper disc with a circular hole in the centre is raised, the dia-

meter of the hole—.

Explain

31. Why are ice-boxes made double-walled?

32. Why does the average temperature decrease with an increase in altitude?

33. A room is lighted by two electric bulbs fixed on opposite walls. Without using a photometer or reading off from the bulbs, or guessing, which of the two bulbs is of higher wattage?

34. Why is a room with white-washed walls brighter than a similar room with black walls?

35. Why do the stars twinkle?

36. Directions : On the line at the right of each preventative or remedy in column B, write the number preceding the name of the disease in column A to which that preventative or remedy is most closely related.

Column A

1. anaemia
2. bubonic plague
3. hemophilia
4. malaria
5. diabetes
6. beri-beri
7. hookworm
8. typhoid fever
9. simple goitre
10. trichinosis

Fill in the blanks

37. (a) The lift on the wing of an airplane is due to—pressure above the wings and—pressure below the wings.

(b) The first flight of a heavier-than-air airplane was made by—in the year—.

(c) The force that drives an airplane *ahead* is known as—. The force that tends to hold it *back* is called—.

(d) When westbound ships cross international date line, Tuesday is changed to—.

(e) Gigantism is caused by

Column B

- (a) Taking quinine or atabrine
- (b) Adding food containing thiamine to the diet
- (c) wearing shoes
- (d) eating iodised salt
- (e) restricting carbohydrate content of diet
- (f) eating foods rich in iron
- (g) cooking pork thoroughly

over activity of the—gland, which is located near the—.

Test your knowledge

38. When germs get through the skin, they can live inside the body because here they find 1, 2, and 3. As they weaken the tissues of the body, they form 4 that the body counteracts with 5. Killing harmful germs is the work of the 6. A thick, yellow fluid found in a wound contains dead white blood cells and dead germs. It is called 7.

The care given to an injured person before the professional service of a doctor is obtained is called 8. When a severe injury retards circulation and slows down all body activities, the victim is suffering from 9. He must then be kept 10 and quite.

Drowning accidents and electric shock prevent 11 from reaching the cells. The treatment for these accidents is 12. There are two forms of this treatment, the 13 method and the 14 method as well as the use of mechanical devices.

39. Scientific Abbreviations and Vocabulary

- (a) Nanometer (NM)
- (b) Psychiatry
- (c) Telstar
- (d) CPS
- (e) SH
- (f) SST
- (g) Mulching

ANSWERS

1. (a)	2. (a)
3. (a)	4. (c)
5. (d)	6. (d)
7. (d)	8. (a)
9. (c)	10. (c)
11. (b)	12. (b)
13. (d)	14. (c)
15. (b)	16. (b)
17. (b)	18. (d)
19. (b)	20. (b)
21. (d)	22. (d)

31. The space between the two walls of the box contains air which is a poor conductor of heat. The heat, therefore, cannot enter from outside. Hence ice can remain in the box for a long time without melting.

32. The earth's atmosphere acts like a huge blanket, tending to prevent heat from escaping. As the altitude increases, the layer of air above becomes thinner and thus permits the

(Contd. on page 326)

Objective-Type Tests—English Language (Contd. from page 317)

soporific; glutton; wallow; recurrent; satiating.

Q. VII. Judging from the context, tick the correct meaning of the italicized word.

A. The children were all *agog* as the actor drew a pistol from his pocket.

- (a) happy
- (b) excited
- (c) frightened

B. They all had *alibis* when asked where they were on the day of the crime.

- (a) nervousness
- (b) denial of guilt
- (c) plea of absence

C. The senator made a long *high-flown* speech.

- (a) lofty
- (b) meaningless
- (c) difficult to understand

D. He let out a *guffaw* when I finished telling the joke.

- (a) hearty laugh
- (b) sigh of relief
- (c) sneer

E. The congressman is a leading exponent of prohibition.

- (a) enemy
- (b) supporter
- (c) interpreter

ANSWERS

(Question I)

- (a) 3 (I doubt whether he will)
- (b) 1 (to raid the club)
- (c) 2 (three score and ten)
- (d) 3 (would attach no importance to)
- (e) 1 (to throw up your job)
- (f) 2 (our hard-won freedom)
- (g) 2 (engrossed in the happenings)
- (h) 3 (between the two opposing factions)
- (i) 2 (regard him as great as)
- (j) 1 (difficult to get on with)
- (k) 2 (what his plans are)
- (l) 2 (and if something is not done)

(Question II)

A. (c)	B. (b)	C. (c)
D. (c)	E. (b)	

(Question VI)

- q. 1. (a)
- q. 2. (c)
- q. 3. (d), (b), (a), (c), (e)
- q. 4. (a) Correct
(b) Correct
(c) Incorrect
(d) Correct

q. 5. The doctor knows that the rich man does not need tonics but he must prescribe them for otherwise he would be sacked. Similarly the clergyman dare not tell him that he is a drunkard and glutton because he needs subscription for his church. Both of them have been depicted as timid.

soporific: causing or tending to sleep.

glutton: a person who eats too much.

wallow: move or roll about with pleasure.

recurrent: occurring again and again.

satiating: satisfying and sometimes too fully.

(a) 3	(b) 2	(c) 1
(d) 3	(e) 2	

(Question IV)

- (a) ashamed (b) turmoil
- (c) glut (d) heroic
- (e) advanced

(Question V)

- (a) whispered (b) insisted
- (c) admitted (d) shouted
- (e) protested

(Question VII)

A. (b)	B. (c)	C. (a)
D. (a)	E. (b)	



SPORTS

ATHLETICS

National Cross Country Races: Poonam Singh of Services claimed the top honour in the gruelling 14-1/2 km. event for men in the 14th National Cross Country Races, held at Udaipur on October 12. He covered the distance in 46 minutes 52·5 seconds and was followed by two other Services runners, Sita Ram and Kalam Singh.

Shashikala Ramchander (Railways) ran a well-judged race to romp home first in the women's 3 km. event in 10 minutes 20·1 seconds. Rekha Jain (Rajasthan) and Harpreet (Punjab) finished second and third respectively.

The team championships were won as follows: men (Services), women (Railways), boys under 19 (Punjab) and boys under 17 (Karnataka).

BADMINTON

England Win Test Series: The 12-member England badminton team wound up their tour of India at Bangalore on October 29 with a 7-4 win in the fifth and final Sanjay Gandhi Memorial Badminton Test. With this, the visitors clinched the Test series 4-1. England had already won the Tests at Ludhiana, Delhi and Indore against India's single triumph at Lucknow.

The visitors' victories were made easier as, after the first two Tests, India's top women players—Ami Ghia, Kanwal Thakur Singh and Ameeta Kulkarni—had to leave for Jakarta to participate in the Uber Cup Badminton Championships.

Uber Cup: Although India were beaten by Indonesia by 9-0 in the final of the Australian Zone of the Women's International Badminton Championships for the Uber Cup at Jakarta on November 1, both the countries qualified to go to Tokyo next May to meet the finalists from the European, American and Asian Zones.

BASKETBALL

Inter-University Championship: Winning all three matches in the league, Calicut University finished on top in the Inter-University Women's Basketball Championship for the C.B. Gupta Trophy at Madras on November 5. Punjabi University (Patiala) were the runners-up.

CRICKET

Irani Trophy: Delhi, the reigning Ranji Trophy champions, won the Irani Cricket Trophy for the first time by virtue of their first innings lead against Rest of India at New Delhi on October 26. The annual fixture provided a feast of runs as many as 1379 being made in four days.

SCORES:

Rest of India: 507 for nine declared and 232 for five declared.

Delhi: 628 for eight declared and 12 for one.

Moin-ud-Dowla Gold Cup Tournament: Nirlons XI, led by Sunil Gavaskar, won the Moin-ud-Dowla Gold Cup Cricket Tournament at Hyderabad on October 20. In the final they defeated Mafatlal XI by 32

runs. The losers were skippered by Ashok Mankad.

SCORES:

Nirlons XI: 269 and 235.

Mafatlal XI: 162 for nine declared and 310.

Double-wicket Tournament:

Former Pakistani skipper Intikhab Alam and Yashpal Sharma won the Double-wicket Tournament which was played at Baroda on October 19 as part of the D.K. Gaekwad Benefit Match. The pair hit up 135 runs in 10 overs. Out of these 30 runs were deducted as Intikhab was out thrice while hitting up 82 runs.

Gillette Cup: West Indies' Clive Lloyd was named the outstanding player of the Gillette Cup English one-day competition for 1980 at London on October 20.

Owing to spiralling cost of running the competition, Gillettes withdrew their association with the event after 18 years. The National Westminster Bank may take over the sponsorship of the competition.

FOOTBALL

D.C.M. Tournament: Mohammedan Sporting Club of Calcutta covered themselves with glory when they lifted the prestigious D.C.M. Football Trophy at New Delhi on November 9. In the final, they defeated South Korea's Bank of Seoul and Trust Company by one goal to nil, scored by D. Roy in the 41st minute of the match.

In the semi-finals, Mohammedan Sporting had beaten Border Security Force, 2-0, and the Koreans had overwhelmed East Bengal, 3-0.

Instituted in 1945, the tournament was not held from 1946 to 1948. The competition was resumed in 1949 and since then, besides the top Indian teams,

been attracting strong entries from abroad.

This was Mohammedan Sporting's fourth victory in the final of the tournament. Previously, they had won the trophy in 1956, 1961 and 1964.

Inter-University Championship: Guru Nanak Dev University scored a big triumph at Ujjain on November 3 when they won the All-India Inter-University Football Championship. In the final, they defeated Calicut University by a solitary first-half goal. Punjab University got the third place.

HOCKEY

World Cup: India will hold the fifth World Cup Hockey Tournament at Bombay from December 29, 1981, to January 12, 1982.

Giving a green signal to the Indian Hockey Federation to host the tournament, the Union Education Ministry also agreed to the I.H.F. proposal to invite 11 countries—Pakistan, Holland, West Germany, Australia, Spain, England, New Zealand, Malaysia, Argentina, Canada and Kenya.

Asian Women's Dispute settled: The two rival Asian Women's Hockey Associations, headed by India and Malaysia, decided at Islamabad on November 3 to unite and form the Asian Ladies' Hockey Association.

India's Mrs Aijaz Rasool was named President of the five-member *ad hoc* committee of the new association which was authorised to hold elections under a new constitution. The first meeting of the Asian Ladies' Hockey Association will be held at Kyoto (Japan) from August 27 to 30 next year.

Shriram Cup: Bihar Regimental Centre, Danapur, won the All-India Shriram Hockey Cup Tournament when they

defeated E.M.E. by one goal to nil at Kota on November 2.

National Junior Championship: Uttar Pradesh emerged as winners of the National Junior Hockey Championship which concluded at Jabalpur on October 14. In the final, they defeated superbly-fit and well-drilled Combined Universities by a solitary first-half goal. Twenty-six teams participated in the championship.

Liberals Tournament: Star-studded Punjab Police had to fight hard to win the fifth Liberals All-India Hockey Tournament at Nabha on October 19. In the final, they stroked out A.S.C., Jullundur, by four goals to three.

MOTORING

Himalayan Rally: Three times Kenyan Safari champion Shekhar Mehta lived up to his reputation and won the first Himalayan Car rally which ended at a glittering prize-giving function at New Delhi on October 26. He, with his co-driver Lofty Drews, cruised to victory in his Opel Ascona-400, conceding 212 penalty points. They were awarded the Air India Trophy and a cash prize of Rs. 30,000.

West Germany's Marianne Hoepfner, with Oda Dencker-Anderson, came home second with 249 penalty points in their Toyota Celic-249. Besides capturing the Mobil Trophy, they bagged a prize of Rs. 20,000.

Another West German team of Wolfgang and Ans-Schuller, who drove a Datson 160-J, got the Aaren Trophy and Rs. 10,000 for the third place.

SWIMMING

National Championships: Maharashtra's ace swimmer Amita Sood gave a superlative performance in the 37th National Aquatic Championships which

concluded at Lucknow on October 12. She bagged six golds and a silver and credited herself with six new national records, scoring one with her team-mate Persis Madan.

T. Jacob of C.R.P.F. proved to be the most outstanding swimmer among men, with a haul of three gold medals.

Inter-University Championships: G.S. Dhall of Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, and E. Prasanna Kumari of Kerala emerged the individual champions in the men's and women's sections respectively in the All-India Inter-University Swimming Championships which concluded at Calcutta on October 26.

Defending champions Kerala retained the men's and women's team titles with 67 and 50 points respectively. They were followed by G.N.D. University and Calcutta University in the men's section and Delhi and Jadavpur in the women's section.

VOLLEYBALL

Inter-University Championship: Calicut University, the South Zone champions, won the A.-I. Inter-University Volleyball Championship for men at Varanasi on November 5. In the final, they defeated Punjab University in straight games, 15-3, 15-12, 15-12.

Asian Junior Championships: South Korea won both the men's and women's team titles in the 10-nation Asian Junior Volleyball Championships at Seoul on October 26.

In both the sections, South Korea were followed by Japan and India. Thus these three countries qualified to take part in the second World Junior Volleyball Championships next year.

Current General Knowledge

PERSONS

Barre, Siad: is President of Somalia. He was in the news when on October 21, he declared a state of emergency, saying opportunists were threatening stability at a time when Somalia was menaced by neighbouring Ethiopia.

Hebbar, Kattingeri Krishna: eminent painter, was in the news having been appointed chairman of the Lalit Kala Akademi.

Mr Hebbar who is a Fellow of the Lalit Kala Akademi was awarded Padmashri in 1961.

He graduated in painting from the Sir J.J. School of Art, Bombay in 1938 and later studied at the Academy Julian, Paris, 1949-50.

He is the recipient of several awards, including the gold medals of the Academy of Fine Arts—Calcutta, Bombay Art Society and the Lalit Kala Akademi.

He was chairman of the Karnataka State Lalit Kala Akademi since 1976.

Ranjit Singh, Maharaja: (1780-1839) whose birth bicentenary (200th birthday) was celebrated on November 13, 1980, was Indian ruler and leader of the Sikhs, popularly known as *Sher-e-Punjab* ("Lion of the Punjab"). He was born on November 13, 1780.

By birth the head of one of several competing Sikh groups, he rose to primacy through his own genius, and was one of the ablest Indians of the century. He freely employed Hindus and Muslims as well as Europeans,

but always on a basis of Sikh supremacy.

Reagan, Ronald: President-elect of the U.S.A. was the Republican candidate who trounced Mr Jimmy Carter all across the country in winning election as the 40th President of the U.S.A.

Mr Reagan, who at 69 will be the oldest President to take office, crushed Mr Carter in State after State in a contest that turned into a runaway.

With him was elected Mr George Bush, his running mate, as Vice-President.

(Mr Carter thus became the first elected President to be turned out of office by the voters since Republican Herbert Hoover lost in 1932 in the years of the great depression.)

Yash Pal, Prof: 53-year-old Prof Yash Pal is Director of the Space Application Centre at Ahmedabad. He has recently been appointed Secretary-General of the second U.N. Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. He is an alumnus of Panjab University. As an outstanding space scientist he has won so many honours that he himself seems to have lost track of them. Awards and recognition seem to chase him.

Honours have been showered on him since 1958 for his work on cosmic rays, high energy physics, astrophysics and SITE.

In 1973 he was appointed Director of the Space Applications Centre at Ahmedabad. Under him the Centre has made

Persons
Places
Science
Space Research
U.N.O.
Warfare

significant progress in research and development in space communications and remote sensing. The entire SITE schedule was drawn up by Prof Yash Pal.

PLACES

Strait of Hormuz: is the 36-mile wide channel—an important route for international traffic between the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman. It was in the news in October 1980, when a naval task force of 60 warships from the United States, France and Australia assembled in the Indian Ocean—Arabian Gulf area to neutralise any attempt by the Iranian navy and air force to block shipping in the *Strait of Hormuz*.

In the geographical sense, a strait is a narrow stretch of the seas separating two land areas and linking two portions of the seas or a gulf with the high seas.

Under customary international law, both merchant ships and warships have, unless otherwise prescribed by a treaty, a right of free passage "through straits used for international navigation between two parts of the high seas without the previous authorization of a coastal state, provided that the passage is *innocent*."

The Times magazine reported on Oct. 21 that the U.S. was prepared to keep the *Strait of Hormuz* open by force if Iran attempted to carry out its threat of closing it to shipping.

"The 36-mile-wide channel has been the life-line for some 40% of the non-Communist

world's total oil supply", Time wrote.

SCIENCE

Largest Solar Telescope: A solar telescope is nearing completion on the shores of lake Baikal in Siberia. This telescope is one of the world's largest. Its mirror weighs 10 tonnes and will be installed on top of a tall tower. The screen will picture the sun as having 40 centimetres in diameter and enable the astronomers to observe the processes going on in the sun, particularly the displacement of spots and protuberances—plasma discharges into outer space.

India's first solar-powered lighting system: India's first solar-powered lighting system has been installed in Choglamsar, a remote village in Ladakh. Popularly known as the SOS children's village for the Tibetan refugee and orphan children, it is the second village in the world to have solar energy as the source of power for operating various electrical gadgets and appliances. The first village to have this system is in Arizona district of the United States of America.

Situated at a height of nearly 11,000 feet, the power system has been installed at a cost of about Rs. 1.5 lakh. Designed and developed by the Central Electronics Limited, the system is providing electricity to a 20-bed hospital and a big kitchen. Both have been provided with fluorescent tube lights, says an official release.

SPACE RESEARCH

Voyager-I enters realm of Saturn: Voyager-I, extending man's eyes over nearly two billion kilometres of space, entered the exotic realm of Saturn on November 12, as it pierced the boundary of the giant golden planet's magnetic field.

Called the Bowshock, the boundary marks the point 1.4 million km. from Saturn where the planet's magnetic field is strong enough to deflect solar wind, a stream of particles from the sun.

The ship, battered but healthy after a voyage of 38 months and two billion km., showed earthbound scientists the first of seven new worlds as its route skimmed just 4,000 km. from mighty Titan, a red-orange giant that is the biggest moon in the solar system.

The spacecraft sailed out and away from Saturn on November 13 after sending hundreds of readings and pictures back to earth and leaving behind a trail of broken scientific theories about Saturn.

All of the pictures and data showed natural processes vastly more complex and intriguing than had been imagined. The seemingly simple ring system turned out to be hundreds of rings and ringlets, some jagged, others sharp, spoked, smooth, straight or braided.

The spacecraft had to glide above the plane of the rings, through an area believed to be free of the debris and ice that form the rings. But there was the possibility that it might hit something.

The spacecraft was also affected by the strong gravitational pull of the giant moon Titan, which altered its course.

The enigma of the moons continued to dominate much of the scientists' efforts. Analysis of the pictures showed that the moons appeared to have been formed by different processes, none of them conforming to the widely held theories. Some of the moons were solid rock, some were huge ice balls.

When Voyager-I leaves the sixth planet, it will head out of the solar system to begin an endless journey among the stars.

In case any extraterrestrial beings come across the wandering spacecraft, there's a gold-plated record with greetings from earth mounted on Voyager-I. The record, called "Sounds of Earth", includes animal noises, rock and folk music and a message from U.S. President Jimmy Carter that bears "greetings froma small, distant planet."

Rohini doing well: The Rohini-I satellite, put into a near-earth orbit on July 18 from the Sriharikota Space Centre, completed 100 days in space on October 26.

Rohini, the 35-kg. satellite, had so far circled the earth nearly 1,500 times, completing one orbit every 97 minutes, and was still sending powerful signals.

All systems on board were functioning perfectly, and the present indications were that the satellite would remain in orbit for one and a half years. It was planned to last only three months.

Scientists of the Indian Space Research Organisation had just concluded an analysis of the enormous data collected from the launching of SLV-3, the four-stage 17-tonne satellite launch vehicle which shot Rohini into orbit. The analysis showed that all the major sub-systems and nearly 1,00,000 components had performed "almost with clock-like precision". S.L.V.-3 was fabricated at the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (V.S.S.C.).

The aim was to assess the performance parameters of the fourth stage of the S.L.V.-3 rocket and the satellite's own performance in orbit. The satellite was now relaying information on the functioning of various sub-systems like solar cells, sensors, gyr-mechanism, and telemetry.

The main objective of the S.L.V.-3 project was to gain experience in the design, development and launching of vehicles

capable of placing scientific and experimental satellites in near earth orbits.

Communications Satellite Launching System by 1985: India is to enter the stage of replacing foreign-made satellites in the communication field with its own launching system by the mid-eighties under a 10-year profile set for the Indian Space Research Organisation.

This challenging and complex task called for development of advanced space technology in the country, which already had the necessary base and infrastructure, the Chairman of ISRO, Professor Satish Dhawan, said recently.

He said the Ariane Passenger Payload Experiment (APPLE) had already been moved to Toulouse in France for sending into orbit. The Indian National Satellite (INSAT), a multi-purpose domestic satellite system for telecommunications, meteorology and telecasting, would be operational some time next year. Eventually, INSAT-2 would have to be launched by an Indian vehicle in the next decade.

U.N.O.

U.N. election: The United Nations General Assembly elected Ireland, Spain, Japan, and Uganda to the Security Council on October 21. It, however, failed to fill a Latin American vacancy on the council immediately even though withdrawal of Cuba's candidacy left Costa Rica the only aspirant.

WARFARE

How Lethal are Chemical Arms?: The Times, London, recently reported that both the super powers have developed a highly refined and volatile variety of *sarin*—a nerve-shattering chemical derivative.

Mr Richard Ichord, Chairman of the Research and Deve-

lopment Sub-committee of the U.S. House Armed Services Committee, estimates that every third Soviet missile and rocket warhead and up to 10 per cent of artillery projectiles, mortar shells, land mines and aerial bombs are loaded with chemical weapons, which have a higher killer ratio than any military device except the nuclear bomb.

Both the super powers have built up their chemical arsenals on the technology used by Germany and Japan during World War II. By the mid-fifties, the Soviet Union and the U.S.A. could achieve a breakthrough in the development and use of mustard gas, nerve gas and lung-killing phosgene. Thereafter they proceeded to develop defoliants and weed killers, mainly designed to eliminate enemy sanctuaries in forests and fields. Some of these defoliants, delivered in large doses, can be lethal to human beings.

So toxic and deadly is the "chemical gas" now found in abundance in the super powers' arsenals that a pinhead-sized drop of it applied to a person's skin can bring about instant death. Moreover, as the raw materials and production processes are similar, production of war gas on large scale is no different from the production of chemically similar pesticides, detergents and fertilisers.

Both the Soviet Union and the U.S.A. have a substantial stock of mustard gas and nerve gas. Nerve gas, which is more potent than mustard gas, can incapacitate and destroy the nervous system at a moment's notice. A majority of the nerve gases are odourless and invisible. Normally, they begin to act on the victim within fifteen minutes of exposure. The symptoms are: contracted pupil, intense giddiness, vomiting and muscular convulsions. Soon the victim goes into coma, which is climaxed by death.

TOPICAL ESSAY (Contd. from page 292)

the course of history were caused by the failure of intellectuals to step in when required. The rise of dictators like Hitler and Mussolini, the world wars, the endless conflicts and massacres have resulted from the lapses of intellectuals in not intervening and checking the follies of men not so well gifted with brains. The intellectuals must, therefore, enter the mainstream of life to ensure peace and orderly progress. That would be man's crowning achievement for centuries to come.

DEBATE; DISCUSSION

(Contd. from page 294)

affluent Arab oil producers doing their bit to relieve human misery? OPEC countries set apart only a fraction of their fabulous petro-dollars for the relief and rehabilitation of the victims of poverty. They have more wealth than ever before, and yet they waste it and feed the rich by recycling it to the West and doing only nominal good to the really needy countries and that, too, on a religious basis (the lion's share of the OPEC aid goes to Islamic people). Thus the entire world is to blame for the failure of the U.N. Do the people really love peace and justice? They only talk about it. There have been cases where the U.N. has shortened conflicts, ensured cease-fires, and minimised the casualties. When men are deliberately destroying other fellow creatures, what can the U.N. do? What is needed is not abolition of this body but reform of it, so as to make it more effective. The sweeping veto power of the Big Five should be swept away and a more rational structure evolved. Ending the U.N. would be a sorry reflection on mankind.

Government by Ordinance

(Contd. from page 282)

a deception", are "to modernise the motor vehicle industry and to effect a more economical utilisation of scarce fuel." None of these explanations is convincing, and there has been much criticism of the Maruti take-over.

Is the country going to have an ordinance "raj" which bypasses, at least for some time,

the normal channel of legislation—Parliament? Are we in for some sort of Emergency of which these ordinances are foretaste? The increasing number of authoritarian postures and the anti-democratic activities do not augur well for democracy and Fundamental Rights.

India's Future Set-up: The Vital Debate

(Contd. from page 284)

tendency to denigrate and humiliate the judiciary to make it conform to the Government's wishes and to modify the system of judicial appointments is an unhealthy undemocratic trend that gives an inkling of the ruling party's mind. "Packed courts"

VOCABULARY

(Meaning of selected words used in this issue)

acquisitive: able or ready to acquire.

adumbrate: to give a faint shadow of; to shadow forth; to foreshadow.

affluence: abundance; wealth.

assiduous: constant or unwearied in application.

baron: a title of rank, the lowest in the peerage; the owner of a freehold estate, whether titled or not.

berserk: a Norse warrior whom the sight of the field of battle would fill with a frenzied and resistless fury.

beseech: to entreat, to implore; to ask or pray earnestly; to solicit.

bespatter: to spatter or sprinkle with dirt or anything moist; to defame.

conform: to make like or of the same form; to adopt; to be or become of the same form; to comply; to obey.

conformist: one who conforms, especially to the worship of the Established Church.

coterie: a social, literary, or other exclusive circle.

cudgel: a heavy staff; a club. *To take up the cudgel:* to join in defence.

disparage: to dishonour by comparison with what is inferior, to match in marriage with an inferior; to lower in rank or estimation; to talk slightly of; to dishearten.

dither: to tremble; shiver, quake; to waver. *v.t.* to perturb, confuse.

"Domino Theory": According to powerful and in-

fluent section of opinion in the U.S. State Department, if one country in a region falls to the communists, others in the region are also bound to follow. This is called the Domino Theory.

emaciate: to make meagre or lean; to deprive of flesh; to waste.

façade: the exterior front or face of a building; the appearance presented to the world, esp. if showy and with little behind it.

fait accompli: (Fr.) a thing already done.

felicity: happiness; delight; a blessing; a happy event; a happiness of expression.

flounder: to struggle with violent and awkward motion; to stumble helplessly in thinking or speaking.

furrow: the trench made by a plough; a groove; a wrinkle.

furtive: stealthy; secret.

haven: an inlet affording shelter to ships; a harbour; any place of retreat or asylum.

heretic: the upholder of a heresy.

lute: an old stringed instrument shaped like half a pear.

metamorphosis: change of shape, transformation; transformation of a human being to a beast.

myriad: any immense number; numberless.

nefarious: extremely wicked; villainous.

nonentity: the state of not being; a thing not existing; a person or a thing of no importance.

oblation: act of offering; a sacrifice; anything offered in worship.

ostracize: in ancient Greece, to banish by the vote of the people written on potsherds; to exclude from society.

ostensible: that may be shown; outwardly showing or professed.

overt: open to view; public; apparent.

pall: to lose strength; to become vapid, insipid, or wearisome.

pelf: riches (in a bad sense); money, booty.

prerogative: a peculiar privilege shared by no other; a right arising out of one's rank, position, or nature.

pro rata (L.): in proportion.

reverbrate: to beat or send back; to reflect; to recoil; to rebound.

revile: to assail with bitter abuse.

scoff: mockery; an object of derision.

sine qua non (L.): without which not; an indispensable condition.

snag: a hidden obstacle or drawback.

snare: a running noose for trapping; a trap; an allurement, temptation, entanglement, moral danger.

sniff: to suspect or detect by smell or as if by smell.

tranquil: calm; peaceful.

utopia: an imaginary state of ideal perfection.

will-o'-the-wisp: any elusive and deceptive person or thing.

Appointments Etc.

Appointed, Elected Etc.

Nikolai Tikhonov: Appointed Prime Minister of the U.S.S.R.

Shafic Wazzan: Appointed Prime Minister of Lebanon. He is the Muslim conservative politician.

Wilfried Martens: Appointed Prime Minister of Belgium. He belongs to the Flemish Social-Christian Party.

Sadiq Ali: Governor of Maharashtra, has been appointed Governor of Tamil Nadu replacing Mr Prabhudas Patwari.

Air Chief Marshal O.P. Mehra (Retd): Appointed Governor of Maharashtra.

Ram Kishore Vyas: Appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Pondicherry. He is a senior Congress (I) leader and former Minister of Rajasthan.

Kedar Pandey: Irrigation Minister in the Union Cabinet has been appointed Railway Minister following the acceptance of resignation of Mr Kamlapati Tripathi. (The Irrigation portfolio would be temporarily looked after by the Agriculture Minister, Rao Birendra Singhi.)

Vishnu Kalyandas Ahuja: India's Ambassador to Japan, has been appointed Ambassador to the U.S.S.R. in succession to Mr Inder Kumar Gujral.

Krishnan Srinivasan: High Commissioner designate to Nigeria, has been accredited as Ambassador to the Republic of Benin. He succeeds Mrs Kizhepat Rukmini Menon.

Kattingeri Krishna Hebbar: Appointed chairman of the Lalit Kala Akademi.

Anker Jorgensen: Prime Minister of Denmark.

Resigned

Kamlapati Tripathi: Railway Minister in the Union Cabinet.

Alexei Kosygin: Prime Minister of the U.S.S.R.

Dead

Sahir Ludhianvi: Noted lyricist and poet.

EVENTS

OCTOBER

- 17—The first Himalayan car rally flags off from Brabourne Stadium, Bombay.
- The Sri Lanka Parliament votes to deprive Mrs Bandaranaike, former Prime Minister, of her civic rights for seven years and to expel her from the House.
- 18—Australian Prime Minister, Malcolm Fraser, claims victory in the national elections.
- 19—The Union council of ministers expanded.
- 21—Somalia's President, Mr Mohammed Said Barre, declares a state of emergency in his country because of "Ethiopian aggression".
- 22—Iraq and Iran exchange air raids as fierce ground battles continue around besieged Abadan and Khorramshahr at the southern end of Iraq's 480-km. invasion front in Iran.
- 24—Iraq announces the final capture of Khorramshahr, the Iranian trading port that has been a focal point of the Gulf war almost from its start on September 22.
- 28—The Assam agitation on the foreign nationals issue takes a new form as the

sponsors begin an indefinite gherao of legislators, besides reimposing the blockade on the movement of jute, timber, cane and bamboo.

—Iranian forces abandon the major port of Khorramshahr.

NOVEMBER

- 2—The second unit of the Rajasthan Atomic Power Project starts generation. It has been connected to the northern power grid.
- 5—Ronald Reagan, the Republican candidate, scores a startling landslide in the U.S. presidential election trouncing Mr Jimmy Carter all across the country in winning election as the 40th President of the U.S.A.
- 13—Maharaja Ranjit Singh's bicentenary (200th birthday) celebrated.
- Re-constituted National Integration Council meets under the chairmanship of Mrs Indira Gandhi.
- 14—Nehru Award for "International understanding" presented to Nelson R. Mandela, the South African leader.
- 15—National Satellite Telecommunication network inaugurated in Sikandrabad (Bulandshahr district), U.P.

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Overtures from Moscow

JOINT communiques issued after talks between Heads of State or of Government hide more than they reveal, and this is apparently true of the declaration made by Mr Leonid Brezhnev and Mrs Indira Gandhi after the Soviet leader's recent visit to Delhi. All the platitudes and honeyed expressions of peace and goodwill among mankind notwithstanding, there need be no doubt that Mr Brezhnev came all the way from Moscow, despite his indisposition, with a specific purpose and that he did not succeed in persuading Mrs Gandhi to fall in line with his reorientated five-point doctrine designed to ensure security in Asia.

The new peace doctrine—a variation of the old Soviet proposition for regional security—is significant enough and puts the ball in the U.S. court. The bait is, however, not likely to be accepted. The doctrine envisages an accord on not setting up foreign military bases in the Persian Gulf area or on the adjacent islands, not deploying nuclear or any other weapons of mass destruction there; not using or threatening to use force against the countries of the Persian Gulf area and not interfering in their internal affairs. The peace plan would also commit the concerned Powers to respect the status of the non-aligned States and not to draw the latter into military groupings but respect the sovereign rights of the States of that area over their natural resources.

It may be recalled that President Carter's Doctrine, announced about a year ago, was also aimed at safeguarding the American interests in the Gulf area and was by itself reminiscent of the Monroe Doctrine which, in effect, meant "Hands off Latin America". Thus the Super Powers announce doctrines but little comes out of them; the tensions and the conflicts continue as before. The "doctrine war", or the "slogan war" as it may be termed, is for the record, conducted with tongue in cheek and with the knowledge that the other Power will not accept it.

In respect of the Persian Gulf, the Brezhnev Plan obviously has oil as the main aim since there is specific mention of "the inherent right" of the States to dispose of their oil wealth in any manner they please. As for military bases, these lose much of their significance because of the

prescribed parity of military forces of the two giants. The bases do lend prestige to the powers, but the massive investment seldom yields the desired dividends.

Mrs Gandhi avoided any commitment to Mr Brezhnev's earlier Asian Security Plan, and she has not fallen in this time either, for obvious reasons. If India toes the Moscow line in this regard, she would be openly annoying Washington which it would be unwise to do. So it is best to keep the middle line even while maintaining friendship with the Russian Bear.

Another failure of the Delhi talks was in respect of the Afghanistan crisis. The duplicity of the Russians is obvious: while condemning all attempts of outsiders to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries, Russia glosses over her own invasion of Afghanistan and her decision to stay put there. Whatever happens, the Russians will not withdraw from Afghanistan which has become a Russian base in Central Asia and the world has gradually adjusted itself to the situation, namely, the Russians continuing their hold on Kabul permanently. And if the Afghan crisis remains unresolved, how can there be peace and stability in Asia? The Big Powers pretend to oppose de-stabilisation of the Asian situation, but their actions belie their words.

Duplicity is also implicit in Mr Brezhnev's loudly professed respect for non-alignment. Afghanistan was a distinctly non-aligned country and yet the Russians made a mess of it. So the doctrines and commitments not to interfere in other countries' internal affairs have become virtually meaningless. Russia has a puppet regime in Kabul, just as the U.S.A. has puppet regimes in certain regions. Russia is fighting an insurrection in Afghanistan, but for whose sake and on whose behalf? The Big Powers express concern over the deterioration in the international environment, but the fact is that they have themselves caused the deterioration. If they like, they can ensure peace and amity. But the tension suits them since it facilitates arms sales and the prosperity of their armament manufacturing industries, besides bringing them prestige as the protecting powers and the guardian angels. Verily, there is no limit to deception and make-believe in this tormented world. Things certainly are not what they seem.

Current National Affairs

- Mr Brezhnev's Significant Visit**
- Blinding of Prisoners Scandal**
- Congress Favours Presidential System**
- Ministry for Assam**
- Cost of Agitation**
- Ganga Issue Now Political**
- Indo-Bangladesh Boundary Talks**
- Impact of Sea Law Conference**
- Stand on Diego Garcia**
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- Media Invasion**
- Drive against Black Money**
- 51% People still below Poverty Line**

Mr Brezhnev's Significant Visit

Although the communique issued after the four-day visit to Delhi of the Soviet Union President, Mr Leonid Brezhnev, from December 8 to 11, was on the familiar lines and incorporated the usual sentiments of amity and goodwill, there need be no doubt that the visiting V.I.P.'s main purpose was significant—to strengthen relations with India at a crucial time and, in particular, to assure Mrs Indira Gandhi of full Russian support. It is no secret that the Indian Prime Minister has been facing difficult national situations; besides, in the international sphere the Soviet Union itself needs close friends because of the recent change in the balance of power and the increasing tussles with the U.S.A.

Banquet speeches are generally full of platitudes and praise for both the hosts and the visitors; even so, the words used by Mr Brezhnev at the Delhi banquet arranged in his honour to describe Mrs Gandhi were significant. He hailed Mrs Gandhi as "the outstanding political and State figure of contemporary Asia." Mr Brezhnev also praised India's policies in all spheres. In short, it was a good public relations exercise, performed in part by repeatedly emphasising the traditional cordiality and friendly ties between Russia and India.

The typical reaction of Indian leaders to the joint declaration issued after the Soviet delegation's visit was that of a

Congress (U) M.P. who described the declaration and the communique as "a landmark in Indo-Soviet relations".

The communique, however, shows that there is no change in the known stands of India and the Soviet Union on such issues as Afghanistan; in fact, the declaration avoids any direct mention of Afghanistan or of the Soviet action in that region. The differences in the perception of the situation resulting from the Soviet military intervention are apparent.

The declaration states, however, that the "outstanding issues in Asia and the world as a whole can and should be resolved by peaceful means so as to enable the countries of the region to devote themselves to the tasks of national development."

During the talks with Mrs Gandhi, Mr Brezhnev steadfastly stuck to the Soviet support to Afghan Premier Babrak Karmal's proposal that Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan should hold discussions on the issue. Other alternatives are not ruled out. The declaration also concedes the positive role which non-alignment can play in conflicting situations of the type arising in Afghanistan. Mrs Gandhi is believed to have reiterated India's well-known stand that all Soviet troops must withdraw from Afghan soil because their continuing presence violates the sovereignty of Afghanistan and would have a serious impact on the region, particularly on India.

The joint declaration does not, however, refer to the Soviet condition for withdrawal of all troops—unless the southern neighbours of Afghanistan reached a good-neighbourly agreement with the "Afghan Government", there could be no withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghan soil.

Nor does the communique make any mention of the five-point Soviet doctrine of peace for the Persian Gulf, which was evidently enunciated as a counter to President Carter's doctrine announced early in 1980 with the same motive of safeguarding its national interests in the Gulf and warning against other Powers' intervention.

The joint declaration says the two countries, India and the Soviet Union, express serious concern over the hotbeds of tension in South-West Asia and reaffirm their conviction that the problems of the region demand political solutions, paying full respect to the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-aligned status of these countries.

The two countries called upon the countries of the region to speedily terminate the armed conflicts, to exercise restraint and co-operate constructively for reducing tensions and restoring peace. India and the Soviet Union reiterated their opposition to all forms of outside interference in the internal affairs of the countries in the region. They felt confident that negotiated political solutions alone can guarantee a durable settlement of the existing problems.

Stressing the principles of peaceful co-existence and consolidation of peace and stability in Asia, the two countries felt that efforts for eliminating all forms of tensions should continue.

The communique also called

for the dismantling of all foreign military and naval bases in the Indian Ocean and reaffirmed their determination to co-operate in the implementation of the U.N. Declaration of the Indian Ocean as "a zone of peace".

Blinding of Prisoners Scandal

One of the worst brutalities committed in Indian jails since Independence was the cruel blinding of over 30 under-trial prisoners in Bhagalpur Jail (in Bihar) during the period October, 1979, to October, 1980. The investigating police evidently behaved in an inhuman manner, prompting Mrs Gandhi, who, like most other people, was shocked at the atrocities, to state in Parliament on December 1 that the Police force should be humanised. She conveyed her deep agony at the happenings and felt physically sick. At first she could not believe that such a thing had happened. This matter must be taken above party politics. Where are we going to in this country? "That anybody can do this is beyond my comprehension. This is not only a question of punishment. We must make a major effort in the training of these forces whereby they do not become dehumanised."

The Bihar Chief Minister, Dr Jagannath Mishra, confirmed on November 30 that at least 31 alleged criminals had been blinded. All the suspended police personnel had been removed from the district. Fourteen criminal cases had been instituted against first policemen against whom specific charges were made by the victims during the investigation by the Deputy Inspector-General of Police (CID). Besides the Deputy Superintendent of Police, two inspectors and 12 sub-inspectors of police have been put under suspension.

The preliminary CID investigation revealed that the police was guilty of negligence on at least two counts—it had failed to register cases against the accused persons and it had also not provided immediate medical relief to the victims as provided under the Police Manual.

A three-man medical team of eye experts, set up earlier, rushed to Bhagalpur to examine the victims and to see if their eyes could still be salvaged. The Chief Minister said that it was strange and beyond his comprehension as to why everybody remained tight-lipped over this "ghastly" affair which had been going on for one year, until the Press started highlighting it.

In 1980 two elections were held and leaders of different parties campaigned actively but they did not get even a hint of this atrocity. He asserted that whosoever might have blinded the criminals must have had a "social sanction" in view of the menace created by the criminals.

Asked about the role of the Jail Superintendent in highlighting the cases following the alleged tussle between him and the local police, the Chief Minister said he too could not escape responsibility as the Jail Manual provided that whenever an accused was given to its custody, the authorities must note the condition of the prisoner before admitting him and if he needed medical assistance, this must be reported to the Government and necessary action taken.

Dr Mishra wanted to know why the Jail Superintendent took almost nine months to realise his responsibilities.

The Home Minister, Mr Zail Singh, announced that in cases where optical nerves were intact and corneal grafting was possible, it would be done and the Government would bear all the expenses. He assured the Lok Sabha that the Government

would give no quarter to those guilty of such barbarous acts. "We will not hesitate to proceed against even the high officials involved and give them the most stringent punishment so that such inhuman and barbarous acts do not recur." What had happened in Bhagalpur was "most heinous" and made "our heads hang in shame". At the same time, he appealed to the House not to overpublicise it, lest it bring the country a bad name.

Mr Vajpayee asked why were not top officials, including the Superintendent of Police arrested? What had been done by the Bihar police, he said, were barbarous monstrosities that belonged to the 19th century. "India was a signatory to the U.N. convention against such torture. Suppose this matter was raised in that international forum, what answer would the Government give? This is something that should shake the soul of the entire country."

Congress Favours Presidential System

A highly significant national development early in December was the active backing of the All-India Congress Committee to the proposal for a switch-over to the Presidential system of Government. It was for the first time that such a change was actively mooted at the Congress forum. The initiative was taken by Mr A.R. Antulay, Chief Minister of Maharashtra, a strong advocate of a new system of Government more suited to Indian Conditions. He was loudly cheered by the delegates when he voiced the proposal on December 7. Although no formal resolution on the subject was passed at the session, the significance of a Presidential system of Government being canvassed from the A.I.C.C. platform cannot be ignored, and

it was widely commented upon.

Mr Antulay asserted that the type of democracy which had succeeded in Western countries, including the U.S.A., France and Britain, was not suitable for India. He wanted the A.I.C.C. (I) to convene a special session for a detailed discussion of the question.

Mr Antulay's suggestion was supported by Jagannath Pahadia, Chief Minister of Rajasthan. Mr Pahadia felt that the Constitution should be amended to provide for a stable system of Government, because leaders like Jawaharlal Nehru or Mrs Gandhi "would not be there for ever". Syed Mir Qasim, former Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, also felt there was merit in Mr Antulay's proposal.

In fact, the two Chief Ministers' espousal of the cause of a change in the system of Government momentarily pushed into the background a proper debate on the economic situation, until other speakers came forward and limited themselves to the main subject.

Mr Kamalapati Tripathi, who had moved the resolution on the political situation, also propounded the cause of the Presidential system. He was backed by another prominent speaker, Mr Bhagwat Jha Azad, Union Minister of Supplies.

Mr Antulay began by saying that parliamentary democracy, as it existed today, could never bring "the progress that we desire". He recalled the recent consultation he had held in this connection with Acharya Vinoba Bhave. He had recently posed "a direct question" to the Acharya whether the type of democracy that had prevailed in countries where 80% of the people were rich was suitable for India where 80% of the people were poor.

Mr Antulay favoured remodelling of the Constitution,

keeping the interests of the common man in the forefront. It was for the Congress Party, which had won the popular mandate, and for Mrs Gandhi, who was the acknowledged leader of the nation, to initiate the process of re-examination of the Constitution, unmindful of the hue and cry raised by "some diehards and conservatives". He requested Mrs Gandhi not to shy away from her responsibility in the interest of the coming generation.

Mr Antulay thought that there was a need to review the Constitution once every 20 years so that changes suited to that particular generation could be incorporated in it. The nation should learn a lot from the 30 years' experience under the present Constitution.

The founding fathers had framed the Constitution keeping great men like Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi in view. But such great people would not be around for all time to come and "the system is going to crack up, if it is not reviewed."

Mrs Gandhi might be able to carry on the Government despite attempts to create chaos by the Opposition. But the system had collapsed when "smaller men like Mr Morarji Desai and Mr Charan Singh were at the helm of affairs."

Economic development and a stable political system were inseparable, intermixed and inevitable. A stable system was one where the elected leader would not have to worry about his or her tenure and would not have to face the agitations that Mrs Gandhi had been facing throughout 1980 as also during the 1973-75 period which led to the imposition of the Emergency.

The basic plea of the pro-changers is that once it was ensured that the elected

Government could not be dislodged except through general elections at the end of the stipulated period, it could concentrate on implementing its economic and other programmes.

Ministry for Assam

The year-long President's rule in Assam ended on December 6 when an 8-member Congress (I) ministry headed by Mrs Syeda Anwara Taimur assumed office.

Forty-five-year old Mrs Taimur is the first woman to head a government in the State. Six of the eight Ministers will hold Cabinet rank. The two others are Ministers of State.

Earlier, the President, Mr N. Sanjiva Reddy, revoked Central rule, clearing the way for the formation of a popular government. The President signed the revocation proclamation in Calcutta signifying the end of Central rule clamped on December 12, 1979, in the wake of the agitation launched on the "foreign nationals" issue.

Originally for six months, President's rule was extended by another half year by Parliament. Under the latest amendments to the Constitution, no State can be ruled by the President directly for more than a year.

The proclamation read: "In exercise of the powers conferred by Clause 2 of Article 356 of the Constitution of India, I, N. Sanjiva Reddy, hereby revoke the proclamation made under the said Article on 12th December, 1979, in relation to the State of Assam."

Mrs Anwara Taimur, who was a prominent figure in the social and political circles of the State, is the youngest Chief Minister to head a ministry in Assam. After having taken the

post-graduate degree from Aligarh University following a brilliant academic career, she joined the Assam Pradesh Congress Committee as convener of its women's front. Her devotion and sense of dedication took Mrs Taimur subsequently to important positions like those of General Secretary, Assam Mahila Relief Society, executive member of the Assam Mahila Samiti, member of the A.I.C.C.'s Central Women's Advisory Council and member of the A.I.C.C.

Mrs Taimur got elected to the State Assembly for the first time in the 1972 elections and she joined the Council of Ministers, headed by Mr S.C. Sinha, as Minister of State for Education.

Cost of Agitation

The prolonged agitation on the "foreigners issue" in Assam has disrupted both Government work and the life of the common man in this eastern State which is linked to the national economy in several ways.

The one-year old agitation, which has already cost the administration and the people alike "very dearly" in terms of revenue and earnings, has resulted in "incalculable harm" to the economy of the State, the long-term effects of which will unfold themselves over many years, according to an official assessment.

The most important was the tremendous damage the agitation had caused to the investment climate in the State. The panic created among the people from outside working there for decades—some of the families for over 100 years—might result in a "run", causing serious economic stagnation.

The agitation has also been having its adverse impact on

road and rail transport, which adds to the economic chaos.

The consequent shortage of diesel paralysed public transport and movement of goods and caused a spurt in the prices of commodities for the urban consumer and depressed prices for the rural producers.

The students have lost one full academic year. The pace of development has slowed down.

Official sources also referred to the serious erosion in the State's revenue because of the loss in royalty on crude oil and forest produce and a steep fall in sales tax collections, particularly after the blockade on various products.

The Assam Government has been losing Rs. 16 crores a year by way of royalty at the present rate of Rs. 42 a tonne and Rs. 5 crores by way of sales tax at the rate of Rs. 12 a tonne of crude oil alone due to the stoppage of the flow of crude since December 27, 1979.

Enhancement of royalty was due from September, 1980, and the State had made a claim for the enhanced rate to take effect from January, 1980.

The State has been losing Rs. 3 crores every day for the past one year when no crude had been flowing outside Assam State. Since the beginning of this month, the fertilizer plant at Namrup had also stopped operations for want of naphtha due to the closure of Gauhati and Bongaigaon refineries.

Ganga Issue Now Political

The issue of the Ganga waters and the Farakka barrage will no longer be decided by the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission (JRC), which has been holding periodic meetings alternately in New Delhi and Dacca for discussing measures to augment the dry season flow

of the Ganga. The Governments of India and Bangladesh have decided to leave it to the political leadership to find an early solution to the problem, it was officially stated on November 30.

This development took place after the 20th meeting of the JRC in New Delhi. The Commission examined the difficulties that had prevented the initiation of a study of the two proposals put forth by India and Bangladesh to augment the dry season flow.

The JRC noted that the question was discussed at a high political level i.e., between the Foreign Ministers of the two countries, and the discussion was expected to continue. It, therefore, decided to have another meeting very early to make a renewed attempt to submit its recommendations concerning the augmentation of the dry season flow within the time limit specified by the Indo-Bangladesh Agreement on sharing of the Ganga waters.

The last date by which this discussion could take place was November 4, the day the Agreement completed its third year, since Article IX of the Agreement (signed on November 5, 1977) stipulated that the commission should carry out investigations and study of the schemes relating to the augmentation proposed by either Government with a view to finding a solution which was economical and feasible and "shall submit the recommendations of the Joint Rivers Commission to the Governments within a period of three years."

This meeting, however, could not be held. There has been one meeting at the highest level between the two countries in this connection—during September when President Ziaur Rahman had a discussion with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in New Delhi. Further con-

tacts are expected to be made in the near future.

Indo-Bangladesh Boundary Talks

The three-day Indo-Bangladesh talks on the delimitation of their maritime boundary ended in Dacca on December 6 with both sides deciding to meet again as early as possible during 1981 to evolve an acceptable solution. A joint Press statement issued after the talks, originally scheduled for two days, said the meeting was useful and constructive and held in an atmosphere of cordiality and understanding. It was agreed that the question of delimitation of the maritime boundary between the two countries should be resolved in a spirit of mutual agreement, understanding and good-neighbourly relations.

The leader of the seven-member Indian side, Dr S.P. Jagota, Additional Secretary, External Affairs Ministry, said: "We want a solution as soon as possible. I would not like any negative feeling to be emphasized."

Asked if they were making any progress, Dr Jagota said: "We are moving towards a solution in a manner fair and satisfactory to both sides."

Mr A.H.S. Ataul Karim, Additional Foreign Secretary of Bangladesh, who headed the 10-member Bangladesh team, said the two countries are good neighbours and would continue the talks until a mutually acceptable solution was found.

The Foreign Ministers of the two countries, during their meeting in August had decided to deal with the question of the newly emerged islands in the bay (South Talapatty) separately from that of the delimitation of the maritime boundary in general.

Impact of Sea Law Conference

The need for early action to expand and suitably equip India's Navy is being realised following the decisions of the recent Sea Law Conference. India's offshore economic wealth is at present being taken away by certain foreign Powers which have modern equipment for exploitation of sea resources.

The concept of the Exclusive Economic Zone of a country has been accepted. This zone extends to 200 miles in the sea from the coastlines of a littoral State, and the country concerned has the sole right to exploit the economic resources of the area.

It has been calculated that India's zone, about 2 million square kilometres in area, is rich in mineral resources. One square mile of sea-bed in India's Continental Shelf is likely to contain about 30,000 tonnes of manganese, 2,000 tonnes of aluminium, 2,300 tonnes of cadmium, 1,700 tonnes of iron, 400 tonnes of cobalt, 1,200 tonnes of nickel and 650 tonnes of copper. In addition, there are about 220 million tonnes of oil in off-shore reserves and 130,000 million cubic metres of gas.

There are about 15 million tonnes of fish within 30 miles of the Indian coast-lines. The total catch of a year is about 2.5 million tonnes, of which India's share is only a little over 1 million tonnes. Naval officers say trawlers from other countries catch large quantities of fish in the Indian waters. Most affected are areas off the Sandheads and Paradeep where prawn and lobsters are available in plenty. Prawn fetch high prices in the international markets. The officials say most of the trawlers are from Taiwan, Burma and Indonesia.

The navy is also handicapped by the lack of an adequate number of ships to deal with illegal fishing. Besides poaching,

there is also the problem of defending India's off-shore installations, the investment in which exceeds Rs 2,000 crores. It is felt that the investment will grow more than ten-fold during the next decade. About 22,000 non-mechanized craft, 13,000 small mechanized craft and 350 deep-sea trawlers ply in Indian waters.

Apart from protection of economic interests, the Navy also has its duty of defending the coastlines in a war. The presence of naval task forces of both the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R. has heightened tension in the Indian Ocean. Senior Navy officials, however, point out that the activities of the Super Powers have no practical relevance to India's defence preparedness because in the foreseeable future India will not be in a position to counter an attack from any of these Powers.

The Indian Navy is sufficiently strong *vis-a-vis* Pakistan, but the fact that Pakistan is expanding its Navy and arming it with more sophisticated weapons should be taken into account. Pakistan, for example, is trying to procure additional submarines of a modern type; but that country's weakness is the lack of enough repair facilities.

Stand on Diego Garcia

India's stand on Mauritius's efforts to get back the Diego Garcia island was clarified by

External Affairs Minister, Mr P.V. Narasimha Rao, in the Lok Sabha early in December. In a written answer, he said that, right from the beginning, India had opposed the excision of the Chagos Archipelago (which includes Diego Garcia) from Mauritius.

The Mauritius Premier had asserted that the United States and Britain should hold talks with his country for the return

of the Indian Ocean island now being built into a major U.S. military base.

Addressing the United Nations General Assembly in October, Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam had said, *inter alia*, that "Mauritius at the last meeting of the Organisation of African Unity, reaffirmed its claim to Diego Garcia and the Prime Minister of Great Britain in a Parliamentary statement, had made it known that the island would revert to Mauritius when it was no longer required for the global defence of the West.

"Our sovereignty having been thus accepted, we should go further than that and disband the British Indian Ocean territory and allow Mauritius to come into natural heritage as before its independence. The United States should make arrangements directly with Mauritius for the continued use of the island for defence purposes. It must be the duty of both the United States and Great Britain to discuss with the Mauritius Government how best to give satisfaction to all concerned and at the same time provide better prospects for the islanders", Sir Seewoosagur said. But the prospects of success in this effort are dim. Britain is virtually ignoring the Mauritius Government's demands.

Nuclear Fuel Alternatives

India's nuclear scientists have confirmed their earlier stand that they would be ready with alternatives if the U.S.A. did not supply enriched uranium for the Tarapur power plant. They would ensure the continued operation of the Tarapur atomic power plant by using alternative measures and without depending on outside sources.

One of the alternatives, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi said in the Lok Sabha at the end

of November, would be to operate the Tarapur reactors on indigenously fabricated mixed oxide fuel. With the present stocks of fresh fuel received in October, the Tarapur reactors could operate till 1983-84. The consignment of 19.8 tonnes of enriched uranium that was received in October had been applied for in September, 1978. The United States had withheld the second overdue consignment for 19.8 tonnes and had made it subject to conditions "extraneous to the Co-operation Agreement of 1963". Another application for 19.8 tonnes had been made on September 24, 1980, for deliveries between March and September, 1981.

In terms of the 1963 Agreement, the Tarapur reactors could be operated on no other fuel than that supplied by the United States. India was in touch with the U.S.A. for the continued supply of enriched uranium during the duration of the 1963 Agreement and in strict accordance with its provisions. She said no consignment of enriched uranium for Tarapur had been received on a timely basis since 1975.

About the atomic power plant at Kota, Mrs Gandhi disclosed that the man-days lost at the power house were 327 in 1977, 301 in 1978, 64 in 1979 and 89 in 1980 (January-November).

Petrol Prices to go up

The Government of India has made it clear that any further increase in OPEC (Oil Producing and Exporting Countries) or open spot market prices of petroleum crude will be passed on to the consumer because the administration cannot absorb it. This means that petrol and diesel will become even more costly because the OPEC countries seem determined to raise the price further in the next few weeks.

This was the implication of Mrs Gandhi's warning, at a Press conference on December 1, about a possible increase in petrol prices.

Because of the Iran-Iraq war, India, so far this year, has had to spend an additional Rs. 50 crores on spot market purchases to meet the shortfall caused by the drying up of supplies from its two major sources, Iran and Iraq.

The spot market prices are now around \$ 40 a barrel. These had not spurted to astronomical heights largely because the major oil consuming countries had already made a big stockpile of oil. But since the earlier expectation that the war would be short-lived has been proved wrong, the major consumers might, sooner rather than later, have to enter the spot market to make purchases. The spot price, then, would naturally shoot up and one of the countries to be affected would be India.

India has been desperately trying to get the OPEC countries to agree to put this country in the proper category and not to group her along with some of the bulk consumers. India has been pleading with the OPEC to make *per capita* consumption, rather than total imports in a year, as the basis for preferential treatment.

India will import 16 million tonnes of crude during the current financial year, 1980-81. The Government has been taking all necessary steps to secure adequate crude supply and there is no cause for worry over the consequences of the Iran-Iraq war, for the time-being at any rate. He said that India was obtaining crude from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the USSR, Venezuela and several other countries. China is not among the suppliers of crude to India.

Govt. Jobs for Upper Classes

The imbalances in the composition of Government services, showing a "tilt" towards the richer classes and under-representation of under-privileged and backward classes have been causing concern in official circles. Drawing attention to this matter in her address to the chairmen of Public Service Commissions, Mrs Gandhi observed it was the recognised responsibility of the Public Service Commissions to devise methods of recruitment to ensure that disparities in the standards of living, type of education and social background, did not tilt the balance in favour of the more privileged people.

It was not enough to choose bright people, as brightness was often a surface factor that could easily wear off. It was also not enough to judge people merely by their scholastic intelligence. It was more important to select those who are earnest and sound, who had character, courage, confidence and willingness and ability to continue to learn as they went along.

An increasing proportion of Governmental work is now related to technological problems. Not only the generalist administrator but even the technical person needs to keep in touch with advances in ideas and practice.

Referring to Hindi and other regional languages being allowed in all-India civil services examination, the Prime Minister observed that English elitism had prevented our educational system from tapping rural and regional resources. In the world of today it was vital to know some foreign languages well.

The U.P.S.C. and other Public Service Commissions can improve administrative efficiency by advance planning, timely recruitment and quick decisions in personnel cases.

Salaries in government services were no longer comparable with those in some private sector companies. Yet the security offered by government services in a country with a high degree of educated unemployment was attractive.

Each person in government employment must regard service as his first obligation. He must take special care to avoid any label of partisanship.

Decline of Women in Jobs

Despite all the talks of equality of the sexes and the economic uplift of women, all available evidence points to a decline in the job opportunities for women in India and also in the total number of females in employment. Inevitably, there is also a decline in the social and economic status of Indian women. An official study, the results of which were available early in December in the form of a Government paper, states that women are participating more and more in political demonstrations and in protests against atrocities and other injustices on them in the country.

But an unfortunate development is that gradually the women are losing employment chances and are being replaced by men. There is growing unemployment among women fit and qualified for various duties. The Government study has been prepared in connection with the U.N. Decade for Women.

According to the census in the four decades from 1911 to 1951, the women's strength in the work force in India fell from 33.7% to 23.3%. In the next two decades, the post-independence period, it fell to 12.7% as indicated by the 1971 census. This alarmed India's planners and a National Sample Survey was ordered. The census is believed to have underestimated the number of women workers

because of "its emphasis on counting main or primary workers"; in fact, the work force participation rate of women was 28% in 1971.

However, the planners admit that the labour market does not operate fairly as women's share in unemployment, reflected in the unemployment registers, is as high as 40%, although their strength in the labour force is much lower.

Even in those industries where traditionally there has been a high concentration of women workers, their number has diminished considerably. Official Labour Bureau surveys show that in all plantations women earned less than men and that over the years the difference in their wages has increased.

The growing exploitation of, and poverty among, plantation workers is evident from the fact that the proportion of children employed nearly doubled in 20 years.

The growing pressure of unemployment has meant that men, who are traditionally considered bread winners (because women are looked upon as home makers) get the jobs while more women are unemployed. The modernisation of industries has also led to women being thrown out of jobs because of their lower education and consequently relative inability to adapt themselves to the new technology.

A survey undertaken in Punjab shows that less than 1% women and 5% Scheduled Caste women were workers in 1971. This has led economists to conclude that mechanised farming and improved techniques of production invariably cause a sharp decline in women's participation in agriculture.

The growing gap between the rich and the poor has also increased the gap between men and women in terms of economic independence. Without such

independence there can be no improvement in social status. The independent income of women in India has diminished drastically.

However, there has been a significant increase in the number of women employed in the services sector. The inflationary pressures on the middle class has forced their women to leave the security of their homes and look for a job. Today there are many more women employees in Government offices as white collar workers; their number doubled from just over 31,000 in 1961 to over 67,000 in 1971. By 1976 their number had risen to nearly 100,000. Over the same period the number of men employees increased from approximately 1·9 million in 1961 to 2·9 million in 1976.

As a direct result of educational benefits to women of the upper and middle classes, for the first time women are entering new professions—the judiciary, the administrative services, the police service, engineering and journalism, to name only a few services. In the Indian Administrative Service their numbers doubled from 115 in 1972 to 218 in 1977.

Although literacy rates among women have improved since Independence, the overall literacy rate for women in 1971 was only 21·97%, compared to 45·95% for men.

Political activity among women increased during the freedom struggle, but the participation of women in politics in India has been declining. Between 1952 and 1962 the number of women elected to Parliament rose steadily—from 14 to 35 members in the Lok Sabha. Since then the trend has been reversed, with only 21 elected in 1971 and 19 in 1977.

Switch-over to Objective Tests

To expedite the process of selection of candidates for gov-

ernment jobs, the Public Service Commissions are to switch-over gradually to objective tests. The decision was taken by the chairmen of Public Service Commissions at a conference in Delhi on November 29. The Chairman of the U.P.S.C., Dr M.L. Shahare, disclosed that workshops were being held at various centres for university teachers as part of the efforts at reforms in the examination system, to familiarise both the students and teachers with the objective methods of assessment.

Such tests had become necessary in view of the growing number of candidates for the limited number of jobs. In 1979, for instance, for 700 civil service jobs, including 120 Indian Administrative Services and Indian Foreign Services posts, there were 100,000 applicants.

As regards giving the candidates option to take their tests and interview in regional languages, an experiment started last year, even though it had not become immediately popular, would continue. Out of 7,000 candidates, about 100 preferred to take their examinations in regional languages. But the U.P.S.C. considered it itself a pace-setter and hoped that the initial hesitation and apprehension in the minds of parents and students would gradually disappear and that universities, too, would give more encouragement to teaching in regional languages.

It was ensured that the candidates who took their examinations in the regional languages did not suffer on that account and that there was no bias for or against them. So far no one had taken tests in languages like Kashmiri, Sindhi or Sanskrit.

The conference reaffirmed the suggestion of the last conference in 1977 that public service commissions in India should be given more powers, like appellate jurisdiction in service

matters, as enjoyed by similar commissions in other countries.

The conference agreed that candidates should be judged on their intrinsic merit and potentiality, and not merely on their articulation or urban attainment. It considered the further steps that could be taken to ensure that educational, economic and social disparities did not tilt the balance in favour of the more privileged and that Harijans and tribals and minorities got proper representation.

Media Invasion

A new threat facing the Third World is that implied in the subtle invasion by the mass media (the press, TV and radio). Certain foreign powers are trying to undermine the independence and self-reliance of India and other countries through such means. A collective effort is needed to counter the invasion.

Addressing the Asian Regional Conference on "Media for Development", organised by the Singapore-based Asian Mass Communication Research and Information Centre in co-operation with Bangalore University of Agricultural Sciences and the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore, on December 1, Mr Sathe, India's Information and Broadcasting Minister, said the developing world was now confronted with "economic colonialism". Combating this threat called for the acceptance of a perspective of independence in decision-making, taking into account the diversity between nations and democratic participation.

The audio-visual media should adopt the professional approach in communication. It should strive to create audience interest and meet the needs and expectations of people by projecting what was on the ground and by adopting actual file-based coverage.

The media should, instead of limiting itself mostly to what the State was planning to do, identify and highlight successful examples of individual and group efforts in developmental activities and aim at solving local problems. Problems and issues should be covered from the public point of view without any hesitation in bringing out healthy criticism, he said.

While communication was an instrument of social sciences, the media should not be expected to have unlimited power. It should lend a helping hand in motivating the people. "Its contribution is confined to influencing social norms, focus attention and demonstrate opportunities.

Drive against Black Money

The Government of India proposes to curb the growth of black money through multi-pronged action for more effective implementation of tax laws and by launching a drive against hoarding and profiteering.

Listing the steps taken by the Government in that regard, Mr S.S. Sisodia, Minister of State of Finance, said in Parliament on November 28 that the Government had decided to set up an organisation for collecting more intelligence. The organisation would be used, *inter alia*, to build up dossiers of cases involving tax evasion on a large scale so that the information contained therein could be utilised in making the requisite investigation, including search and seizure operations.

For detecting persons having taxable income/wealth but who were not paying tax, and for collecting information about existing tax-payers, survey operations by the Income-tax Department had been intensified and a permanent organisation to undertake survey on a continued basis was now being built up.

The organisation for handling prosecutions launched by the Income-tax Department was being strengthened.

About 8,300 new income-tax and 900 new wealth tax cases have been detected by the Income-tax Department in its survey operations conducted in Delhi for detecting new taxpayers between October, 1979, and October, 1980, according to official sources.

A proposal to appoint a committee to suggest simplification of direct tax laws is being considered by the Government.

51% People still below Poverty Line

All the Five-Year Plans and other development schemes launched in India notwithstanding, the number of people living below the poverty line is still very large. The Planning Commission has estimated that 50·82% of the country's rural, 38·19% of the urban and 48·13% of the total population was below the poverty line in 1977-78.

The Minister for Planning and Labour, Mr N.D. Tiwari, gave this information in a written reply to Mr K.L.N. Prasad in the Rajya Sabha on November 29.

The corresponding estimates for 1972-73 were 54·09%, 41·22% and 51·49% respectively. The Statewise break-up of the percentage of population below the poverty line in 1977-78 is: Andhra Pradesh 42·18, Assam 51·10, Bihar 57·49, Gujarat 39·04, Tamil Nadu 24·8, Himachal Pradesh 27·23, Jammu and Kashmir 34·06, Karnataka 48·34, Kerala 46·95, Madhya Pradesh 57·73, Maharashtra 47·71, Manipur 29·71, Meghalaya 48·03, Nagaland 4·11, Orissa 59·73, U.P. 50·09, West Bengal 52·54, and all Union Territories 21·69.

Current International Affairs

Arab Summit's Verdict

In a communique which was apparently pro-Iraq, issued on November 30, the 15-nation Arab summit called on Iran and Iraq to accept a cease-fire immediately and resolve their conflict by peaceful means. A communique said the conference, held in Amman (Jordan) discussed with "utmost concern" the Iran-Iraq conflict and wanted the two countries to settle their dispute in accordance with the principles of Arab solidarity with the objective of preserving fraternal relations between the Arab and Islamic countries.

It supported the "legitimate rights" of Iraq regarding its land and waters in accordance with the international agreements concluded between the two countries.

The conference also welcomed Iraq's response to the appeals of the Islamic Conference the U.N. and the non-aligned nations for ending the war and for using their good offices to resolve the conflict through negotiations. The conference asked Iran to respond to this stand.

It urged the two sides to honour their commitment to the principles of non-intervention in the affairs of one another, respect each other's right and integrity and work for the establishment of good neighbourly relations.

The summit also urged its members to sever diplomatic relations with the countries that

recognised Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. The leaders emphasised their determination to support the Palestine Liberation Organisation and said the P.L.O. had the right to establish an independent State of its own.

The summit's final resolution condemned the U.S. Government for labelling the P.L.O. as a "terrorist organisation" and rejected as inadequate the U.N. Security Council resolution which has served as the basis for a West Asia settlement.

Meanwhile, President Saddam Hussein of Iraq has claimed that the U.S.A. was instrumental in precipitating the Iraqi-Iranian war which, he vowed, would go on until Iraqi rights were regained.

"There are Powers, mainly America, that pushed the situation to war", Mr Saddam said in an interview in Amman after attending the closing sessions of the Arab Summit. "These powers meant to hurt Iraq and Iran, because this served their own interests."

Power Struggle in Iran

The power struggle between ruling orthodox clergymen and moderate politicians has sharpened in Iran with opposition demonstrations in bazars in the holy city of Qom as well as other cities in the country. This was indicated by reports available on December 2.

The Swedish programme "Rapport" featured an exclusive interview with former Ira-

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nian Foreign Minister Sadegh Ghotbzadeh who called the demonstrations by businessmen of the bazars "a turning point".

It was the mishandling of the Government by the Mullahs which was behind the opposition reactions. They have shown (Ghotbzadch's arrest was one sign)—that they will not stop here but go even further to drive their will through and harass opponents.

He was interviewed at a mass opposition rally in which the son-in-law of Ayatollah Khomeini lashed out at the dogmatic clergy rule. He considered the reaction among the people of the bazars, specially those in the holy city of Qom, as important.

A businessman who was interviewed as a leading spokesman of the bazar said that "during the Shah's regime we demonstrated for freedom. Today, we again seek freedom of speech, and other freedoms, now denied to us by the powerful priests. The businessman, speaking in German said Ayatollah Khomeini "probably does not know of all the things which are done in his name".

A spokesman for the other side, Parliamentary Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani, who is a top leader of the ruling religious party, told the Swedish TV interviewers that leftist extremists and the Americans were behind the opposition reactions. Hitherto, warnings from the Imam (Khomeini) had sufficed. Tougher measures against the opposition might be in the offing.

Threat to House of Lords

The 785-year-old House of Lords, Britain's empire-probed upper chamber, faces a renewed threat by Socialists to abolish it. The Lords is the world's oldest legislative chamber.

Some Conservatives, shaken by the left-wing ascendancy in the Opposition Labour Party are taking the threat seriously enough to propose measures to reform—and entrench—the House of Lords as a last line of defence against the possibility of Labour rule.

But the Lords have heard cries for their ouster before, and few clubs have shown greater powers of survival.

Nearly 70% of the current 1,171 Lords of the realm hold office as descendants of the Dukes, Barons and Ladies who surrounded Britain's old kings, and the rest through political patronage, or role—the Appeal Judges and the bishops of the Church of England.

The House of Lords' oldest member, Lord Rathcavan, is 97, the youngest, the Earl of Harwick, is nine.

As the alarm bells ring again, the House is being hailed by the ruling Conservative Party (whose ranks also include some of the keenest advocates of reform) as being far from undemocratic and anachronistic. It stands, so they argue, between Britain and left-wing dictatorship.

"As long as you have the Lords, you cannot turn Great Britain into great Albania", declared Norman St. John-Stevens, floor leader of the 635-member lower chamber, the House of Commons.

St John-Stevens was speaking before the Conservative Party voted at its annual conference in the autumn of 1980 to protect the upper chamber from abolition. Amid equally flamboyant rhetoric, the Opposition Labour Party Conference voted for abolition of the Lords.

Labour's arch left-winger, the former Energy Secretary, Mr Tony Benn, a hereditary Peer who renounced his title of Viscount Stansgate, suggested

the creation of 1,000 temporary Peers who would vote to abolish the whole chamber and its built-in Tory majority through the hereditary Peers. Such a dramatic move is however unlikely.

Pak Bid for Forces Parity

Pakistan has again raised the question of mutual fixation of the ratio of forces and level of armaments with India and creation of a nuclear weapon-free zone in South Asia.

Mr P.V. Narasimha Rao, External Affairs Minister, reiterated in Parliament on November 29 India's unambiguous stand that the pre-requisite for consideration of such a proposal was creation of trust and confidence between the two countries. It was towards this goal that the two countries must address themselves in the first instance.

On Pakistan's proposal to establish a nuclear weapon-free zone in South Asia, India's stand had been that while it firmly supported the de-nuclearisation of various regions, it felt that free zones must cover distinct and well-defined geographical zones of the world and that the participation in such zones should be on a voluntary basis.

Moreover, a nuclear weapon-free zone could only follow a total absence of nuclear weapons. However, nuclear weapons already existed in the Asia-Pacific region.

India had repeatedly indicated its willingness to sign a no-war pact with Pakistan. Pakistan's view was that the Simla Agreement itself constituted a kind of no-war pact and, therefore, there was no need to sign a separate agreement.

The Government of India had no information about nuclear experts from Britain America, China and Pakistan visiting Gilgit and other areas

in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. The Government was aware of an expedition called the "International Karakoram Project, 1980" jointly organised by the Pakistan Government, Academic Sincia of China and the Royal Geographical Society of London between June 26 and September 12, 1980. The officially stated purpose was to conduct studies in earth sciences. A suggestion to open a new checkpost between India and Pakistan via the Khokhrapar-Munabao district in Barmer had been raised by India during the official talks held during the Pakistan Foreign Minister's visit to New Delhi in July, 1980. The Pakistan Minister had agreed to look into the matter.

Poland Still a Communist State

Despite the recent upheavals in Poland, the deviation from Communist principles in respect of trade union rights and the threat to the country's stability, Poland is to continue as a Socialist State, a link in the chain of Socialist countries. This was made clear by leaders of the Warsaw Pact on December 6 in a communique issued after their surprise summit meeting at the Kremlin. The statement said that Poland can count on the solidarity and fraternal help of the Socialist countries.

The Polish delegation briefed the Socialist leaders on the situation in their country and the results of the recent plenum of the Polish Communist Party.

Polish communists "will be able to surmount the difficulties in keeping to the Socialist path", the statement said, quoting the Polish delegation.

Among those attending, besides Mr Kania from Poland, were the East German leader, Mr Erich Honecker; the Czech leader, Mr Gustav Husak; the Romanian leader, Mr Nicolae Ceausescu; the Bulgarian head,

Mr Todor Zhivkov; and the Hungarian leader, Mr Janos Kadar; according to the photo agency of Tass.

Sitting on the Soviet side, according to the photo agency, were Mr Brezhnev, Premier Nikolai A. Tikhonov, party ideologue, Mr Mikhail Suslov, the Foreign Minister, Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Defence Minister, Mr Dmitry Ustinov and other top Kremlin officials.

East European sources confirmed that the summit was called to discuss the Polish crisis. Meanwhile, Poland's Solidarity Free Trade Union contended that Government accusations to the effect that the Union was sowing anarchy in the country were groundless. The Union leadership called on the authorities to publish a declaration in which the Union repeated its opposition to wildcat strikes.

Publishing this declaration in the present complicated situation in the country is a demand of the moment. "It should remove all doubts concerning the intentions of solidarity and prove that accusations that the Union is sowing anarchy are groundless." The statement claimed that there were no strikes in Poland at present and none were planned.

NATO Powers' warning: On November 10, the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) sounded a clear warning to the Soviet Union against any design for intervention in Poland. Any such move, NATO warned, would mean the end of detente and would bring "incalculable consequences", including diplomatic and economic action and also unfavourable repercussions for the Helsinki follow-up conference in Madrid as well as for the disarmament conferences being held in Geneva and Vienna.

The warning came in a communique issued after a conference of NATO Defence Ministers who felt deeply concerned

over the latest developments in Poland.

The NATO Defence Ministers also cautioned that the Western defence improvements had not kept pace with the continuing expansion of the Warsaw Pact forces, nor had the NATO Powers worked out a common policy in case of any Soviet intervention in Poland. The Soviet-led Warsaw forces, according to the NATO Powers' information, had already completed preparations for military intervention in Poland, even though final decision in this regard had not been taken.

INTELSAT-V Launched

The world's largest communications satellite, the 1,930-kg. INTELSAT-V, was launched on December 7 after a two-day delay because of a technical problem.

The seven-metre satellite went into its transfer orbit 50 minutes after launch atop an Atlas-Centaur rocket.

From the transfer orbit, INTELSAT-V (sponsored by the International Telecommunications Satellite Organisation comprising 105 countries) was expected to be moved into a stationary orbit 22,300 miles above the earth. It will be able to handle up to 12,000 telephone calls and two television channels simultaneously, twice the capacity of any previous communications satellite.

INTELSAT-V, first of a planned nine similar satellites, was built by the Ford Aerospace Communications Corporation of the U.S.A., with some of the components manufactured in Britain, France, Italy, Japan and West Germany.

World University for Peace

Yet another international university is to be established, and this time its name is the

"University for Peace". On December 7 the U.N. General Assembly, acting unanimously but without a vote, approved the establishment of such a university which will be authorised to grant degrees at all levels.

The university will be set up in Costa Rica on land donated by the Government there and a Charter making its main subject "Irenology", named after Irene, the ancient Greek goddess of peace.

The Charter said "Irenology", defined as "the study of peace, education for peace and human rights", would be a compulsory subject required for any degree from the university which would, among other things, grant master's and doctor's degrees.

The Costa Rican President, Mr Rodrigo Carazo Odio, addressing the General Assembly on December 7, said the proposal embodied an idea that had circulated for many years in international conferences—"peace through education, that is, a disarmament of the mind for the building of peace."

ASEAN Compromise Offer

The non-Communist States in South-East Asia on December 5 gave an unmistakable indication to Vietnam that they are prepared to compromise on the Kampuchean issue.

The five members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN)—Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore and the Philippines—are slowly dissociating themselves from the notorious Pol Pot regime of Kampuchea.

Even in October they had helped the regime in international recognition at the U.N. The ASEAN evidently realises that such support is becoming harder to justify each day. It does not want any confrontation with Vietnam in the long

run and it would like Hanoi (Vietnam) to be as independent of Moscow as it is of Beijing (Peking).

It is expected that the ASEAN may eventually agree on allowing Vietnam to assume a dominant position in Kampuchea. The price for such a concession may be that Hanoi ceases to be Moscow's tool in South-East Asia. A plan at present under consideration seeks withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea to the eastern bank of the Mekong river, as a precondition for free elections in Kampuchea under U.N. supervision.

But Beijing is not keen on the idea and neither is Hanoi.

War-ravaged Kampuchea is slowly returning to normal. The country expects to bring in a rice harvest meeting the country's minimum requirements. The starvation, which aroused the conscience of the entire world and brought forth massive aid from the United Nations and other international agencies, seems to have been halted.

Move for Bigger U.N. Council

The question of enlargement of the U.N. Security Council is again before the world body, and this time India has taken the initiative in this regard. Its proposal for raising the strength of the Council from 15 at present to 21, to provide equitable geographical representation to newly independent countries and to make the Council a more effective organ for the maintenance of international peace and security is being supported by Third World countries. But four permanent members—the U.S.A., France, Britain and the Soviet Union stoutly opposed it. A fifth permanent member, China, expressed no views.

On December 5, Mr Brajesh C. Mishra, permanent represen-

tative of India at the U.N., formally moved a resolution in the General Assembly on behalf of India and 12 co-sponsors and said the proposal did not in any way seek to alter the basis on which the Council had been formed. It did not call for any change in the permanent-membership but only sought to increase the seats for non-permanent members. In other respects it left the Council very much in the same position as now.

The expansion of the Council was being sought in accordance with the resolutions of the non-aligned bloc, calling for the democratisation of international relations and equitable representation on all important organs of the U.N., the Security Council in particular.

The U.N. membership has increased from 113 to 154 since the Charter was amended last in 1963. If the principle of the U.N. was based on sovereign equality of States, it would be logical to assume that the composition of the Security Council should be reconsidered.

The argument that an expansion of the Council would render it less effective was untenable. The capacity of the Council had been governed by a series of factors involving the interests of the Great Powers and had nothing to do with its size.

No decision was taken on India's resolution. To become effective, the resolution would need the support of a two-thirds majority of the U.N. Assembly, but the affirmative votes of the five permanent members ruled out this prospect.

Pakistan's Nuclear (Islamic) Bomb

The "Islamic Bomb" programme telecast by the Public Broadcasting System of the U.S.A. early in November, 1980, confirms what has for months been an open secret: Pakistan is feverishly making preparations for manufacturing a nuclear weapon. The emphasis has been on the "Islamic content" of the future Pakistani bomb, which only indicated that several Muslim countries, especially Libya, Saudi Arabia and Niger, are providing finances or material to Pakistan for manufacturing a bomb. The probability is that in two years Pakistan will have the dreaded weapon and thus acquire both prestige and status as a nuclear power. The Muslim countries apart, the U.S.A. and, presumably, certain other Western Powers, are getting reconciled to the emergence of Pakistan as the latest member of the exclusive Nuclear Club. Israel and South Africa have already acquired nuclear capabilities, and the U.S.A. is inwardly pleased with the progress these two countries have made. Logically, therefore, the U.S.A. may be expected to extend generous assistance to Pakistan in the nuclear field.

reliable evidence to show that Mr Bhutto had started putting Pakistan on the nuclear path as early as 1972. He negotiated with Saudi Arabia and Libya for adequate financial assistance for manufacturing a bomb to protect Islamic interests. Several hundred million dollars were promised to Pakistan by these oil-rich countries lately flushed with wealth. Moreover, the religious tag to the proposed bomb imparted to it a new fervour which was missing in other cases of nuclear capability. The professions of peaceful intentions were, of course, phoney. The myth is no longer harped on.

The role played by France in this regard is no less significant. For many months in 1976 the U.S.A. tried to persuade Pakistan to drop the French offer for active co-operation in building up a nuclear plant on Pakistan territory and it even threatened to stop all economic aid if Islamabad refused to comply. Pakistan pretended to defy the U.S.A. and continued its negotiations for a French reprocessing plant, regardless of the risk of losing U.S. patronage. But the deal with France finally did not come through, partly because France itself was under some pressure from Britain and the U.S.A. not to violate the Western policy of preventing nuclear proliferation. Since then, several Western nuclear firms have side-stepped the restrictions theoretically imposed to prevent Pakistan from acquiring the vital technology and the no less vital raw material for making the prestigious bomb. It is worth noting

that the U.S.A. under Mr Ronald Reagan (and the probable return of Dr Henry Kissinger as an influential counselor of the new U.S. regime) is unlikely to deter Pakistan from going ahead with its nuclear plans. Mr Reagan, in fact, said during his election campaign that nuclear proliferation would not worry him unduly. Consequently, as part of the notorious Kissinger policy and of a pro-Pakistan "tilt" the dictates of the Far Eastern defence strategy, the U.S.A. is again likely to come closer to Pakistan. History would then repeat itself. The policy of countering the Soviet influence in Afghanistan and the Communist occupation of key points, especially Kabul, also makes a pro-Pakistan stance advisable for the U.S.A. This would be a development which India would have to watch with care and caution. The U.S.A. may also like to have a nuclear Pakistan at the other end of its Persian Gulf defence strategic network.

The history of Pakistan's nuclear efforts also carries a lesson for all countries, especially of the Indian sub-continent. The origin of "Project 706" (as Pakistan's plan for manufacturing a bomb was secretly called) can be traced to Mr Bhutto's tour of 16 Afro-Asian countries in February-March, 1972, under cover of winning support for Pakistan's stand on Bangladesh. Libya was the most prominent supporter of the project, and Libyan and Pakistani spokesmen conferred frequently in Paris; later, Saudi Arabia and other Gulf countries

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were also brought in. Of the 10 leading Pakistanis who participated in the secret parleys and preparations was Dr Munir Khan. Libya, eager to get the first bomb for itself, is reported to have sent 100 million dollars to Pakistan in December, 1975. President Gaddafi conferred with Mr Bhutto on the problem at the Islamic summit.

Meanwhile, Dr A.Q. Khan, a Pakistani nuclear scientist, was quietly acquiring vital knowledge about the uranium enrichment process at installations in Holland as an employee of a Dutch-British-German consortium called URENCO. Specialising in the centrifuge system, he returned to Pakistan to take over charge of the centrifuge facility centre set up at Kahuta, just outside Islamabad. Pakistan set up a network in Paris and Brussels to make purchases of the equipment needed for its nuclear programme so as to bypass the restrictions imposed by several Western Governments on the export of nuclear material. Kahuta, incidentally, is only five minutes flying distance from the Indian border.

When all the laboratories, gas feed plants and ancillary buildings near Islamabad are ready for operational use, the Pakistan centre can produce enough enriched uranium for six nuclear weapons in a year. The plants initially purchased from Britain, without official sanction, are enough to run several thousand centrifuges at the Kahuta centre. Pakistan also managed to acquire from Swiss engineering company a complete system for gas feeds to the centrifuges. The plant was sent to Pakistan by air in Pakistani air force planes. Recently, Pakistan also managed to buy small quantities of uranium-235 and plutonium. Uranium Oxide was secured

from the Islamic republic of Niger, in Africa. It is learnt that Niger sells its entire share of uranium converted into "yellow cake" (oxide) by a French company, to Libya and Pakistan. Niger has not signed the Non-Proliferation Treaty and is hence not required to obey any international atomic energy (I.A.E.A.) safeguards. The President of Niger is under obligation to President Gaddafi of Libya; hence the facility to acquire vital uranium product.

Pakistan also circumvented the international safeguards laid down by the nuclear Powers by buying sensitive equipment from certain French companies through a subsidiary and a contractor. The subsidiary French firm, ALCOM, has its headquarters in Italy. Twenty-six vessels and tanks required for the Pakistani reprocessing plant are under manufacture by the French firm, and these will be sent to Pakistan within a few weeks. Besides, Pakistan managed to secure vital blueprints and data from the parent firm of ALCOM before an embargo was placed on their export. In fact, according to reports, Pakistan has gone so far ahead in nuclear technology that it can hold a test late in 1981. There is evidence of tunnels being constructed for an underground explosion. The proposed test will, of course, boost Pakistan's image, especially in the Islamic world. The Muslim Arab countries' target is not India but Israel which has already acquired a nuclear weapon.

Thus Pakistan has managed to adopt both the available routes to the nuclear bomb—centrifuge and uranium enrichment supplies. The atomic spy, Dr Abdul Qadir Khan, who was planted in the European Consortium for uranium enrichment (URENCO) in Holland did a crucial job. For three years he

also worked with a Dutch firm (FDO), a major contractor for the centrifuge system. He stayed with the FDO for three years (1972-75) and performed useful experiments. In October, 1975, when his activities became suspect, he left for Pakistan and has been staying there since. During the past four years he has been engaged in establishing the Engineering Research Laboratory near Islamabad where the centrifuge assemblies for the Kahuta plant are being manufactured. Pakistan has also set up a fundamental nuclear research centre called PINSTECH in its laboratories, and it has already practised the technique of reprocessing plutonium.

Since Pakistan has made full use of the worldwide competition in the nuclear industry and has exploited the eagerness of certain firms in Europe to sell vital knowhow for cash, it is not very far from a nuclear bomb. Short-term commercial benefits accruing to the manufacturers of nuclear material have helped Pakistan to secure in a short period the technology and raw material which it took other Third World nations, including India, several years to get.

While taking note of the goings-on in Pakistan, Mrs Gandhi stated a few weeks ago that she ought not to assume that President Zia-ul-Haque was not telling the truth when he denied the existence of a military nuclear programme in his country. But all evidence points to the fact that it would be dangerous to take General Zia at his word. Pakistan's nuclear programme seems to have a profound rationale; there is a reported conviction in Islamabad that Destiny has chosen it as the country to manufacture the Islamic nuclear weapon.

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The Competition Master

How to Give a Boost to Indian Economy ?

It's no news that our economy is stagnating or has stagnated. The real problem is how to rejuvenate it and make it buoyant. This question is appropriately discussed here.

—Editor.

I. Introduction: Is India's stagnant economy picking up? This question is agitating our minds to-day more than ever before. And for good reasons, too. The country is faced with the deepening energy crisis, galloping inflation, transport bottlenecks, infrastructural weaknesses or shortages and the failure of the administration in dealing with the country's economic problems. The antagonists of the party in power have levelled the charges of 'drift' and 'non-performance' against the government. To set at naught such accusations, Mrs Indira Gandhi claimed with a good measure of confidence at her recent Press conference that our "economy is picking up" and that the "administration is recovering faster from the coma into which it had sunk" under the Janata and the Lok Dal governments. She asserted that production in agriculture and industry had increased, the index of industrial production had started rising since April 1980. All these claims and counter-claims call for a dispassionate examination so as to provide a perspective for the regeneration of the economy.

II. Economic Scenario: The current year has inherited an over-heated high-cost economy with scars of unprecedented and wide-spread drought; decline in industrial production as represented by acute shortfalls in sugar, coal and power generation; negative balance of payments; no let-up in the incidence of poverty and unemployment

in the rural and the urban areas and dwindling accumulation of foreign exchange reserves. Sluggish investment tempo both in the public as well as the private sectors accounted for the slow growth-rate. The sixth five-year plan, 1978-83, remained un-finalized and the Janata rule was virtually marked by plan-holiday. Economic inequalities have accentuated. To quote Professor Raj Krishna, formerly member of the Planning Commission, "India remains a case of stunted, sub-optimal growth, burdened as it is with the world's largest single national mass of poverty and unemployment".

Let us make a brief and rapid survey of the economic scenario, with a view to providing a perspective for launching the economy on the path of sustained and balanced growth.

(1) *Growth rate:* The health of an economy is best judged by the trend growth-rate. During the three decades of planning, the decade of seventies had been the worst. It recorded only 3 per cent average annual growth rate, though for shorter terms higher growth rates had been realized. In the sixties, the annual growth rate was 3.66 per cent while the fifties witnessed a higher growth rate of 3.83 per cent per annum. The growth rate has, thus, followed a descending trend during the plan period. This means sluggish growth, perpetual poverty and growing unemployment. The growth trend is now likely to be reversed, thanks to the good and

fairly wide-spread monsoons and the consequent increase in farm output. According to available forecasts, foodgrain production this year will be an all-time record—131 million ton. New highs are also expected in sugarcane, oil seeds and other crops. The industrial output is also expected to register marked improvements following increased power generation from hydro and thermal power stations.

(2) *Zooming prices:* The inflationary prices have assumed menacing proportions over the years. During the week ending with October 18, 1980, the index number of the wholesale prices stood at 265.7 (base 1970-71) registering a rise of 16 per cent since April, 1980 and 8 per cent since the presentation of budget in June last. The climbing inflationary pressures are unlikely to be arrested henceforth. In fact, the oil crisis and the impending recession in the industrialized countries may accentuate the worsening price situation. Should fears come true, poverty and unemployment, especially in the rural sector, will increase; economic disparities widen and the real GNP (Gross National Product) fall. The lesson we must learn is that prices must not be allowed to zoom but tamed effectively and expeditiously.

(3) *Poverty:* As already stated, the curse of poverty continues to grow despite the several-fold increase in GNP over the past three decades. More than half of the total popu-

lation (to be precise, 309 million) lived below the poverty line in 1977-78. The total number of the rural poor increases annually by about 5 million because of the overall growth of the population.

(4) *Unemployment*: One of the most disturbing aspects of economic development in India is that the volume of unemployment keeps growing. In 1978, it stood at 16·85 million man-years for people in the age-group 15-59. If the population growth continues adding more and more to the working force, the army of the unemployed is bound to swell unless there is a corresponding increase in the jobs. In such an event, the pressure on land will increase. At least during the past seven decades there has been no diminution in the share of agriculture in the work force.

(5) *Economic disparities*: A widely recognised fact about India's economy is the skewedness in the distribution of wealth and income. This situation in the rural areas worsened during the sixties. The share of the poorest 10 per cent of the households in the assets declined "from a mere 2·5 per cent to 2 per cent while the top 10 per cent continued to account for 51 per cent." In the urban corporate sector the concentration of capital has been proceeding apace. The top 20 business houses controlled 64 per cent of the total productive capital in the private corporate sector.

(6) *Self-reliance*: It is gratifying to note that we have achieved self-reliance on the food front and even built up buffer stocks (about 20 million ton) of foodgrains indigenously produced. No imports of foodgrains have been made. In fact, India is now a net exporter of foodgrains. This is, perhaps, the only silver lining on the horizon overcast with dark clouds.

What should be done to meet the challenges? Let us not allow ourselves to be deluded by empty assurances given by the government and the leaders of the ruling party that the economy has started picking up or will do so in the near future. "The government that works" or a buoyant economy is a far cry. Here are some guide-posts to be taken notice of.

(a) *Political will*: The present government with a charismatic and dynamic leader at the top has the decisive advantage over the Janata party government since ousted. It has a coherent party. It can, therefore, muster strong political will and also ensure political stability by virtue of the absolute majority at the Centre and in the States. This is not to deny in-fighting in the Congress (I) but to emphasize that the core is strong and resilient enough to absorb the shocks. It rests with the leaders to wield the potential political will and motivate the people to work with and for the government. The entire nation has to be involved in some sort of 'action plan' to make up for the big leeway. The government will do well to harness the enthusiasm into this nation-building task before their enthusiasm and confidence in the ruling party begin to wane.

(b) *Resource optimisation*: With idle capacity in almost all the industries (from 1970 to 1978, it averaged to 22 per cent), the emphasis must shift from capacity creation to capacity utilisation. This will result in higher returns on investment and also necessitate better performance of management of the public sector undertakings.

In the industrial sector, precedence must be given to the mass consumption goods in order to contain the inflationary pressures. At the same time,

the long lags in the construction of new industrial capacity in important sectors (steel, irrigation, railways) have to be reduced to lower the production costs.

Our saving ratio is now quite high—22 per cent. The tempo of investment is comparatively low. Mobilisation of savings for productive investment is imperative for rapid industrialisation, in particular, and overall development, in general.

(c) *Plan strategy*: The national plans have been criticised on many counts. They have failed to translate into action the Directive Principles embodied in the Constitution. Removal of poverty, unemployment and an egalitarian society—all these basic objectives repeatedly set out in the plans—are as elusive as ever.

The time has come to reorient the plan objectives and strategy. Our plans should have a bias for the poor and not for the rich. Decentralised planning aiming at production of not capital goods but of consumption goods is needed. Growth-oriented strategy should be substituted by employment-oriented strategy; imports by domestic production; and sophisticated foreign technology by appropriate native technology. It may be stated, in passing, that India occupies the pride of place in possessing scientists and technologists—she is ranked third in the world—and as such the onus of discovering new technology suited to Indian conditions falls on them.

In short, we should orient our growth process immune to inflationary effect.

(d) *Demand management*: Fiscal and financial measures have failed to reverse the upward trend of prices. The cost-push inflation has been compounded by demand-pull. Apart from such measures as dear

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Moral Education: Its Shape and Importance

Never has the need of moral education been so seriously realized in India as now. What should be its shape? What are the difficulties in its implementation? What methods need to be adopted? These vital questions are discussed in this feature.

—Editor.

Need: When wealth is lost, nothing is lost; When health is lost, something is lost; When character is lost, everything is lost. The Indian nation in crisis of character has, in terms of this oft-quoted maxim, lost "every thing". How to retrieve the lost ground? Shall we restore and consolidate the traditional social, moral and spiritual values? Or modify them? What should be their shape and form?

Concept of moral education: In the life of the majority of Indians, religion is a great motivating force and is intimately bound up with the formation of character and the inculcation of ethical values. India is accredited as the high priest of spiritualism in the world. Shame, that our life pattern and conduct should be far from it. But then, it has a bewildering diversity of caste, creed, colour and clime. The multiplicity of religious sects has made confusion worse confounded. Religious fanatics unleash communal frenzy with their wonted clarion call 'religion in danger'. They conveniently forget:

Mazhab nahin sikhata kisi se hair rakhna,
Hindi hain hum watan ke,
Hindustan hamara.

(Religion does not teach or preach animosity against anybody; we all belong to India which is our homeland.)

The communal conflicts or riots which have erupted in the past (leading to orgy and blood-

shed and even balkanisation of this Great country as in 1947) are not due to religious differences. They, in fact, arise from confusion religious piety with parochial sectarianism. It is most unfortunate that this confusion has not been effaced over the years despite efforts of the governmental and non-governmental agencies/organisations at national and emotional integration. Instead of the communal harmonization, the virus of communalism, casteism and lingualism has spread deeper. To promote amity and goodwill among the diverse communities where communal conflagration prevails is the real challenge facing the proponents of moral education. Moral education is *not* "religious education" but "education about religions".

What should be its make-up? Precisely, it is a composite blend of all religions. Man's well-being is the end. Ethical education within the periphery of multi-religious society is only a means to achieve that end. All religions emphasize certain fundamental qualities of character such as honesty, truthfulness, tolerance, secularism, reverence for the elders, compassion for the animals, the needy and the suffering. These should form the basis of moral education.

Methods: It is difficult to "capsule" moral education. No rigid formula can be offered. In fact, its flexibility is its weakness. Nevertheless, we have to have

some guiding principles. More than that is the important question to implement it, to translate into action the ethical norms. Towards that purpose, the Kothari Education Commission (1964-66) indicated two-fold approaches: (a) Direct instruction of moral values; (b) Indirect method of moral education.

(a) Direct method: The Kothari Commission recognised that there was a complete absence of provision for moral education in the school curriculum and therefore considered its provision as "highly desirable". It recommended that one or two periods per week should be allotted for the purpose in the school time-table. It is not known whether any intensive effort in this direction followed the Commission's report. It may, however, be noted in passing that much before the Commission made this suggestion of imparting moral education in schools, the system did exist in some institutions so far as I can recollect from my school days.

Direct instructions may be imparted to primary class children through interesting stories, including stories drawn from the great religions of the world. At the secondary stage, there may be frequent discussions, debates, seminars on the values to be inculcated. At higher levels of education in the colleges or universities, a graded system of "education about religions" can be pursued. For instance, in the first year, it can deal with the

lives of great religious leaders; in the second year, selection from the scriptures of the world could be studied; and in the final year, the philosophy of the different religions may be studied. The comparative study of religions will thus provide an opportunity to school and university/college alumni to understand and appreciate the basic tenets of different religions.

Our past experience, however, is that direct instruction method of "moralization" has failed to make any impact on the youth of today. Reason? The overwhelming extraneous factors—the "materializing" civilization, rapid erosion of traditional human values like consideration for others, respect for old age, an innate love for the country and the countrymen, good neighbourliness etc.—have rendered ineffective the thin veneer of character-building through education in social, moral and spiritual values. With the passage of time and the growth of amoral values, the school children have developed "immunity" to moral education. It hardly makes any impact on them.

Moral educationists would like involvement of the parents of the children in this formidable task. "Catch-them-young" approach is, indeed, good. In the impressionistic age, a little effort on the part of teachers/parents may work. But sustained efforts are called for to achieve long-lasting results. Character-building is a life-long process. It is to be carefully built, meticulously preserved and assiduously developed. A bad slip at any moment may leave a stigma (sometimes indelible) on one's immaculate character. They say: it does not take long for milk to get spoilt or character to get soiled.

(b) *Indirect method*: The keynote of this method lies in creating consciousness for the cherished values in the children.

This can best be achieved by creating a climate in the school which is conducive to inculcate the moral and spiritual values. Not only the teachers in charge of moral education, but "every teacher, whatever the subject he teaches, must necessarily accept the responsibility of building character". All school activities, in fact, the life, tone and atmosphere of the school, must inspire the alumni to imbibe these qualities.

The process of creating consciousness for values should, in fact, start at the pre-school stage. Parents must initiate the process at home at a very early age and gradually, but steadfastly, instill, by their personal life and conduct, a consciousness for the social, moral and spiritual values. This raises a very vital issue: who should inspire and inform the parents? In urban areas, especially in the metropolitan cities, it is not often seen that both the father and the mother of a child are working outside the home (in an office or a factory or elsewhere). So, they stay away from home for long hours. The contact with their children is for a very short duration, except on holidays or Sundays. On working days, parents return home physically fatigued and mentally weary. Child-care, thus, suffers.

Worse still. The parents do not realize that they are derelict in their duty towards the children. They find an escape in advocating *laissez faire* approach in the matter of child development. This approach is claimed to be superior to "guided" development as it gives full freedom to the child to work his way out as he thinks best. He develops initiative, enterprise and drive. The *laissez faire* policy may work well in the case of a self-enlightened child who knows which side his bread is buttered, who can separate the chaff from the grain and differentiate the good from the evil. Otherwise,

all children do need guidance and training, at least in the early stages, to build a good life-pattern which reflects the cultural heritage of India. The need for "guided" development is recognised even in a permissive western society.

The net result of the new urges and aspirations inspired by the Western civilization is that the children in India remain neglected in the pre-school age (either because of parents' ignorance or other reasons) and they resist all norms of discipline and values which the school would like to inculcate in them. Realising this, the Kothari Commission urged that "the expanding knowledge and the growing power which modernisation places at the disposal of society must be combined with the strengthening of the sense of social responsibility and a keener appreciation of moral and spiritual values".

Whatever be the method—direct or indirect—if the values are to become a part of the students' character, an all-embracing treatment of the moral way of life is needed. In fact, the basic difference between the Occidental and Oriental thinking is that with the West it is a view of life; with us it is a way of life.

Conclusion: We are today faced with the worst crisis—the crisis of character. Moral education is a powerful instrument to lift the nation out of this crisis. "We must have life-building, man-making, character-building assimilation of ideas" said Swami Vivekananda. This is very relevant to modern India. Both teachers and parents can make contribution in a big way towards character-building.

ECONOMIC SCENE

- Defence Vs Development
- Rural Unemployment
- Export Strategy and Development

Defence Vs Development

Q. "The net effect of defence expenditure is growth-retarding rather than growth-inducing". Comment.

Ans. Purely from the development point of view, the proposition posed in the question is true, even though it may be difficult to support it statistically. In a developing country, like India, defence expenditure is a necessary evil. Its necessity arises from the need to provide national security on a sound basis and to meet the potential dangers to peace and tranquillity.

As is well known, India had to fight three wars—once with China in 1962 and twice with Pakistan in 1965 and 1971—during the short span of barely three decades since Independence. "If you want peace, be prepared for war" approach had to be adopted by the compulsions of circumstances. Recently, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi (who is also holding, at present, the Defence portfolio) told newsmen: "it is not cold war at our doorsteps; it is hot war". Preparedness for war, obviously, entails defence expenditure of a reasonable, if not of a substantial, order. Not only that. It continues growing from year to year. In 1950-51, the actual defence expenditure was of the order of Rs. 168 crore or 1.8 per cent of the Net National Product (NNP) at current price; this rose to Rs

281 crore or 2.1 per cent of the NNP in 1960-61; to Rs. 885 crore or 4.3 per cent of NNP in 1965-66; to Rs. 1199 crore or 3.5 per cent in 1970-71; and to Rs. 3,600 crore (budget estimate) in 1980-81. The defence expenditure of India has, generally, ranged between 3 and 4 per cent of NNP.

Our defence expenditure may look phenomenally small in the global context. The world defence expenditure is estimated to be over \$ 400 billion. But in a developing economy even the small proportion of 3-4 per cent of NNP is bound to aggravate the resource squeeze.

The diversion of resources from the civilian expenditure to military uses is deemed a non-developmental expenditure. Nevertheless there are certain advantages of investment in defence:

(i) *Employment:* Apart from the combatant services, defence production generates additional job opportunities. At present, there are 32 ordnance factories and 9 public sector defence undertakings which together produced output to the tune of Rs. 850 crore in 1979-80.

(ii) *Civilian goods:* The defence sector contributes goods, including services, for satisfying civilian demand.

(iii) *Arms aid:* Defence exerts an influence on growth not only directly but also indirectly through investment and foreign

aid. Unless a developing country increases its defence expenditure, it will end up with lower foreign aid. And "foreign economic aid has military strings after all". Pakistan receives arms aid which, in a way, is a long arm of the defence expenditure. Defence expenditure in developed countries has encouraged arms build-up and even arms race which keep the defence and allied industries running.

(iv) *R & D:* Defence has invariably given a big boost to research and development, which, in turn, provides, at least, the temper for technology and scientific development.

(v) *Resource mobilisation:* Defence expenditure favours resource mobilisation effects.

(vi) *Keeps up inflation:* Defence expenditure feeds inflation which, upto a certain level, is helpful in development.

One might well say that defence expenditure has a positive association with economic development. This is not to deny outright that there are some serious disadvantages also. The classical economists have always considered it non-economic in character as it is opposed to human welfare. It is destructive. Not only is it development 'killer' but also suppressor of growth.

In conclusion, it may be said that in the modern world defence expenditure is indispensable both in war and peace. The economic strength of a

nation is inextricably linked with its defence.

Rural Unemployment

Q. Write a very short note on rural unemployment in India.

Ans. In the 32nd round (1977-78) of the National Sample Survey, the magnitude of the unemployed as at July-end, 1980 was put at 15·43 million. Half of this were educated and about one-eighth were women. The "daily unemployment" averaged 16·9 million person-years. Three-fourths of this existed in rural areas.

The job-seekers who were registered at the Employment Exchanges showed a rising curve. In 1972, their number touched the 6·9 million mark. It rose to 9·78 million at the end of 1976 and to 14·38 million in 1979.

Remedies: Reduction of unemployment is our national commitment. Every plan reiterates it as its primary objective. Increased employment opportunities are proposed to be created for certain groups of people: (a) landless labourers; (b) those engaged in agricultural pursuits including animal husbandry, forestry and fisheries; and (c) rural artisan.

For the rural artisans, the government proposes (i) to revitalise the programme for improving the economic conditions of all the artisans including the handloom weavers; (ii) to improve capacity utilisation of the sector; (iii) to improve the capital efficiency; (iv) to check "sickness" of the industrial units; (v) to revive the potentially viable units through a package of assistance; and (vi) to augment financial resources to the village and cottage industries.

The National Rural Employment Programme, the Entrepreneur Development Programme

and Training Rural Youth for Self-employment are some of the steps calculated to reduce the incidence of rural unemployment.

Export Strategy and Development

Q. Enunciate the export strategy for development.

Ans. "While a policy of export-led growth may not be appropriate for a country of India's size and endowments, there is little doubt that a growing export sector has an important role to play in domestic development. It is, therefore, necessary that instead of looking upon exports as a residual, they are looked upon as an integral part of the strategy of development". (Economic Survey, 1978-79). In order to integrate export with development, export production must be based solidly on appropriate production and investment policy. If exports are merely grafted on to a system of production and investment that is not export-oriented, the growth of export will always remain an artificial growth and its sustenance will depend upon extraneous factors such as export subsidies.

Export-oriented investment and production implies that the level of output is far in excess of the domestic requirements and the surplus goods can find an export market. The more we use our scarce capital resources in highly capital-intensive and energy-intensive industries, the less the resources left for other sectors. Such industries, by definition, have smaller output relative to the capital investment and to that extent the exportable surplus is also smaller. Therefore, a sound allocation of capital (in fact, all scarce) resources is essential for an efficient economy. Once such an economy is established and starts growing along a dynamic path, a rapid growth of exports

would follow.

In an efficient and freely operative economy, imports, production for domestic markets and exports must be treated in continuity. Import substitution must be integrated with export expansion so that whatever is produced in substitution for imports is also exportable and competitive in the world market. At the same time, it need to be recognised that the process must have a favourable impact on the income and employment of the masses. The resource allocation has thus to fulfil the twin purposes of increased production both for domestic and foreign markets and also of generation of employment at higher income level. The investment pattern which satisfies these objectives lays emphasis on low capital-intensity and energy-intensity industries. The increased income will also generate demand for mass consumption goods and thus reduce poverty.

Pakistan's Nuclear Bomb

(Contd. from page 346)

In this connection, Mr Bhutto's argument is still held valid in Pakistan. "The Christian, Jewish and Hindu civilisations have this military nuclear capability", he said. "The Communist Powers also possess it. Only the Islamic civilisation is without it". Pakistan's military regime under General Zia is evidently pursuing Mr Bhutto's philosophy even after executing him in a ruthless and indefensible manner. The Soviet Union has also asserted that Pakistan is making preparations for a bomb; according to another report, Pakistan has spent 2,000 million on its nuclear plan. Pakistan's rapid and excessive militarisation does pose a danger to India, and complacency would be unpardonable.

India's TV : Hopes and Frustrations

Television in India (Doordarshan) is about 20 years old, and plans are now underway to expand and enlarge it, probably with the touch of colour. At any rate, colour TV is a fad with the present Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Mr V.P. Sathe. Right from the start of this visual medium, opinions have differed about the utility of the "Idiot Box". Undeniably, it is a powerful visual medium that brings pictures of almost everything man surveys, virtually the whole world right before your eyes. It has become a status symbol, and a house or family without a set is regarded as backward and unworthy of high-level social contacts. Even where the reception is poor and there is both "rolling", "blurring" and "shrieking", sound without picture, or picture without sound, or neither, and merely a lighted screen with a background noise, it is deemed prestigious to have "the screened toy in the corner" of the drawing-room.

With the passage of time the distance between illusion and reality in TV has become wider. Initially, it was thought TV was essential for development and spread of education in a vastly illiterate, continental country like India. Examples were quoted of several other poor countries having not only TV but also colour TV to press home the point that, whether the country can afford it or not, TV must be installed as rapidly as possible and the network of TV stations enlarged substantially with each Five-Year Plan as a matter of priority. The

sponsors' calculations were that India's development could be expedited and enlightenment of the masses ensured. There is clamour from various States for locating TV centres in their areas, apparently in the belief that the very existence of a Doordarshan station would spell progress and eliminate backwardness, as if with a magic wand.

These hopes have vanished in many areas, and the frustrations have been growing from year to year. First, the past two decades' experience has shown that TV has not effectively promoted the objectives with which it was started. Instead of becoming a vital means of educating the masses, it has become a luxury of the affluent classes whom it entertains every evening. In fact, the most popular items of TV programmes in each region are films and song-dance items for which boys and girls of all categories of society eagerly wait. The constructive and instructive items are most unpopular, and people just switch off their sets when informative talks or discussions are being held. This means that the Government is spending crores largely for providing entertainment to the elite, for only the elite, the upper crust of society, can afford to possess good TV sets.

Even the advertisements on TV are almost exclusively meant for the richer classes for only they can afford to buy the fancy consumer goods publicised through this media—refrigerators, scooters, textiles, electric

appliances and other sophisticated, expensive equipment for various purposes. What does the common man gain from TV? In fact, much damage is done at times to the Indian tradition and national virtues by presenting false and misleading pictures of life in films.

TV has been in existence for many years in Europe and the U.S.A., but countless people are firmly opposed to it for several reasons. It is interesting to learn that scores of families in West Germany recently took a solemn oath never to have TV in their houses. They have formed an "Anti-TV Club". Their reasons for such hostility are: TV has ruined their personal life, their touch with culture, literature and the people. When TV programmes were being provided on their TV sets, they were virtually glued to their chairs at their homes every evening. The habit of moving out for walks and making social calls were all abandoned. Students' studies suffered because everyone, young and old, was busy watching TV. Even the elders were losing their habit of studying books. The information they needed about current events was available more conveniently through the newspapers. In India also it is a common experience that in a home where there is TV, the school and college studies are "out". "Enter TV, exit studies" has become a common saying.

Thus no "development" has taken place through TV; education and information have not spread through this medium,

and the people's general ignorance and superstitions also continue in the same measure. Crime also continues at the same rate. Thus, it is correct to say that not much would have been lost if TV had not been provided; it would have been better if the heavy investment made on the installation of this media had been spent on providing food, shelter and clothing to the hungry, shelterless masses. The expenditure on TV is regarded by cynics as an index of our strange, lopsided sense of priorities, while allowing thousands of people to starve (about half the population of the country lives below the poverty line), the Government spends a sizable sum of the poor tax payer's money on providing entertainment to the richer classes which have other means of entertainment and of spending their leisure.

A report published by a study team, which based its findings on surveys conducted in 1974-75 in the U.S.A., Britain, Canada and Europe, warned that TV must not become a major educative tool because it cannot instruct or enlighten. The results of an extensive TV habit, it said, could be a social breakdown, alienation of the individual from society and "a state resembling severe brain damage". TV, it said, distracted instead of giving purposeful education.

But numerous benefits were anticipated from TV when it was planned, especially educational—improving the quality of education in schools, improving adult education, notably for family planning, reducing the birth-rate and educating farmers in the methods of improving agricultural yields. TV, it was felt, would certainly enrich the educational content. School TV, especially through informative and travel documentaries and historical dramas can

have a great impact on children's minds.

But the tragedy is that education has taken a back seat; TV is being used for entertainment—or almost for this purpose. Instruction by documentaries and informative films can be done at much cheaper cost by touring cinema vans and school shows. The TV sets in schools are, however, few and far between. They are also expensive. Thousands of sets are out of order and present only blurred images and strain the eyes of children. A survey conducted by the TV centre, Delhi, found that over half the TV sets are owned by middle and lower middle classes. TV can justify itself by promoting interest in learning new things and in fostering a greater awareness of social goals and responsibilities. But it has been found that whenever such useful programmes are telecast, most of the young people and housewives turn off the set and wait for the film dance and song features. Music has its place, but at what cost are we providing it? Radio is much cheaper, more dependable, handy and portable, and millions of people listen to it in rural areas.

Moreover, TV sets have not become cheaper; so the clientele continues to be limited. It is, in effect, available to people who already know what the TV wishes to teach them—the middle educated classes. The community sets in the villages, planned with much fanfare, are not functioning well; most of them are mere junk.

There is also the question of Government control of the mass media. Recent trends have shown that TV, like the Radio, is being used for Government publicity and propaganda. Some months ago certain members of the TV staff were punished because they failed to project the image of the Prime Minister,

Mrs Gandhi, as well as the officialdom expected them to do. The news bulletins are dominated by news about the activities of the Prime Minister and the Minister for Information and Broadcasting, both of whom are publicity hungry. The news bulletins thus get distorted; the really significant news are often pushed back and get a secondary place, with the result that the people do not get, or absorb, each important development in the proper perspective.

The Chanda Committee on Broadcasting and Information Media, in its report submitted some years ago, had recommended in strong and unequivocal terms that the control of the media should be vested in autonomous public corporations—somewhat along the lines of the B.B.C.—the British Broadcasting Corporation, created by a special act of Parliament. The Government has, however, been dithering over this question of autonomy for the media, apparently because it does not wish to lose control over them. Nothing ensures a government a better channel for propaganda than A.I.R. and TV. So, high sounding declarations are made in Parliament and elsewhere about autonomy of the media, but always with certain reservations and referring to the "practical difficulties" and the need to proceed cautiously in this vital matter.

The issue is complex, but the basic hurdle is that the Government does not wish to surrender or even dilute its monopoly over these handy tools for publicity, including propaganda, though indirectly, for the ruling party, with an eye on the next election. Radio and TV are as important for the ruling party, from the point of view of remaining in the seats of power, as the control over the nation's purse strings.

Police and Communal Riots

The Central Government has decided to set up a Special Police Force to effectively deal with communal riots. This Force (SPF) will be unique since it will be composed of members of the minority communities and is to be raised within the shortest possible time. Will it succeed in its aim? The proposition for discussion is: "The proposed Police Force will be a waste of money and energy."

Mr A: Sir, I wholly support the proposition that the proposed Special Police Force to be set up by the Government of India to maintain peace and check communal riots in the States will be wholly futile. In the first place, communal riots are so deep-rooted and are such a complex phenomenon that no police can by itself check such troubles. The real tragedy is that the minority communities are deeply suspicious of the majority community and have so many grievances (regarding the lack of adequate economic opportunities, for instance) that merely strengthening the police by posting additional battalions would be pointless. The root cause of the trouble should be tackled instead of drawing up plans for putting out the fire after it has started. Secondly, according to the proposal as worked out by the Centre, the Special Police Force (SPF) will consist of elements which are truly secular and have a national outlook, beyond the barriers of caste, creed, religion or State loyalties. The whole concept seems to be based on a naive and superficial assessment of the situation and a wrong perspective of the socio-religious and economic landscape. If there are not adequate, well-equipped, well-trained and physically robust men for recruitment from the minorities, including Scheduled Castes and Tribes in a State, outsiders will be taken. What impact can they have in a

State with which they are not familiar? The new policemen may not even know the language, the traditions and customs of the region where they are posted. It needs to be noted that this huge country has at least six races, a score or more of religions and religious sects, 15 major linguistic groups and dialects estimated at about 1600, a vast variety of customs and dress, and notable differences in beliefs and practices. How will the new policemen become familiar with local customs and religious beliefs? A policeman who does not look like one and has no physical capacity to counter attacks by mischievous elements will be worse than useless and will only invite ridicule from the general public. When the peace keepers themselves are brought into ridicule, how can communal rioting be checked?

Mr B: I am afraid Mr A has not fully appreciated the nature of the problems posed by communal disturbances. During such troubles the local police becomes suspect. Since most of these local keepers of law and order belong to the majority community, the oppressed and aggrieved minorities do not have confidence in their impartiality. But if a Special Police Force comprising members of the minority communities, preferably from outside, are posted on duty, there is a greater chance of controlling riotous mobs and

a lesser chance of partiality. The proposed police will be maintained in Delhi by the Central Government and will be rushed to trouble-spots whenever necessary. It has been found that on such occasions the local police proves inadequate to control rioting. Either the army has to be summoned or additional police forces have to be brought. When the S.P.F. is formed, this problem will be solved because there will always be extra police available. Besides, the new force will not be wholly new; it will be an addition to the existing Central Reserve Police Force (C.R.P.F.). The new Force will be properly equipped and trained before it is put on duty at any trouble spot. Besides, such a force will take care of the objection recently raised against the behaviour of the ordinary police. At Meradabad, it is alleged, the police itself committed brutalities, so much so that most of the time, according to informed sources, the clashes were between the Muslims and the police which was dominated by the Hindus. While it would be unfair to brand the entire police force as communal, there is no denying that some policemen are partial and prejudiced; they act against certain minorities with a vengeance and beat them up ruthlessly. They are often described on such occasions as "beasts in uniform" who have lost all sense of proportion and of humanity. The Special Police

will help check such inhuman conduct, provide assurances of fairplay to everyone and not indulge in brutalities. Riots are often the result of conspiracies by vested interests. An outside force may be expected to fight these vested interests because they will be jealous of their own reputation as impartial people sent for a specific purpose. Since the minorities will be effectively represented on this force (most of them will belong to the weaker sections, such as Harijans), the chances of injustice to these sections will be lessened. After all, during communal riots at present don't we summon outside agencies or third parties which are expected to be non-partisan and play fair? This purpose is expected to be served by the Special Police Force.

Mr C: I am sure every reasonable and fair-minded person will agree with the arguments given by my friend, Mr A. I am convinced that the expenditure on the Special Force, currently estimated by the Centre at Rs. 5·2 crores, will be largely a waste and that the Government is adopting the wrong approach in tackling the communal problem. If the police of various categories, including the Reserves, could by itself prevent or check communal riots, the riots would not have become so frequent and would not have recurred so often and resulted in such heavy losses. Actually, the police is often helpless and can only take punitive action (and that too in a wild, irresponsible manner). Even such punitive action does not deter the mischief-mongers and the trouble-makers from starting another riot where and when they please. There is also the question of jurisdiction and State autonomy. Law and order is a State subject; the Union Home Minister stated in Parliament on November 26 that normally the Centre would

not send the S.P.F. to any State unless it was asked by the concerned Government to do so. However, if the Centre felt that a particular State had failed to maintain law and order, "it would not wait for their call." Sensitive States dominated by Communist (Marxist) Parties and Left Fronts, such as West Bengal and Kerala, and some of the smaller Eastern States and Union Territories, are unlikely to seek the Centre's help. Any Central intervention without the consent of the concerned State administration is likely to lead to complications and non-co-operation which would hinder the task of the Special Force and make the whole exercise self-defeating. Moreover, there are already chances of a confrontation between the Centre and these Communist-ruled States; superimposition of the S.P.F. on unwilling States would cause further strains in Centre-State relations. The Government itself admits that the co-operation of peace-loving citizens is necessary to check riots. Will the S.P.F. promote citizens' co-operation? Very unlikely. Actually, the police force has become discredited and notorious for brutalities of all types—rape of women in police stations, shielding of criminals in return for a share in the spoils of thefts and robberies, the brutal lathicharges on blind persons, the recent Bhagalpur (Bihar) cruelty of the investigating police who ruthlessly blinded about 30 undertrials in jail. All these misdeeds have ruined the image of the police, and it will take a long time for the people to start trusting the police and regarding them as sincere guardians of peace and public welfare. Therefore, I submit that the proposal for a Special Police Force is ill-conceived and ill-timed.

Mr D: It is easy to condemn the police and to decry every proposal for expanding their strength. Let us face the

facts. Is it not true that the police is very much in demand whenever there is a disturbance or a riot? And is it not true that, but for police intervention, there would be endless rioting, arson and stabbing by communal elements? After all, who restores order and scatters a riotous mob which is destroying their rivals or enemies. So, while we criticise the police for brutalities on some occasions and ineffectiveness at other times, we also realise that the police is indispensable, and the more police we have, the greater the chances of controlling mischief. Of course the police cannot totally prevent communal riots. For attaining that aim, other measures have to be taken. But must we let destruction of life and property continue until the people become more tolerant and until full social and economic justice is assured for all the aggrieved minorities? On the one hand we blame the administration for not taking effective action to catch criminals and trouble-makers many of whom manage to elude arrest and resume their tactics soon. On the other hand, we criticise the Government for its decision to constitute a special force which would be rushed to every danger spot on receipt of a signal. What grounds are there to assume that the S.P.F. will not be able to check or reduce the frequency of riots? In fact, such a Force would be able to inspire confidence among the people because it would be fully representative of all sections of the people. The State Governments need have no fear that their authority would be adversely affected. The S.P.F. (which would be fully mobile and ready to be airlifted) would only assist, not supplant, the existing force for maintaining law and order. The Force would also make it unnecessary to summon the Army for the task of keeping law and
(Contd. on page 364)

Wasting Emotions—Guilt and Worry

Worry and guilt are natural emotions. But it is unnatural to think that they must be nursed or they cannot be got rid of. Both are serious personality handicaps. Guilt always belongs to actions done in the past whereas worry relates to present or future. Neither brooding over the past nor worrying about the future is going to change your realistic position. Both are the biggest wasting operations you can launch against yourself.

Both "paralyse" you. One affects you because you brood over the dead past. The other because you worry over the future. In simple words, these two wasting emotions have caught you in their vicious grip. They have arrested your past as well as your future. Robert Burdette has said, "It is not the experience of today that drives men mad. It is the remorse of something that happened yesterday and the dread of what tomorrow may disclose."

Cast a careful look around and you will see lots of people sunk in the blues on this count. Maybe you are one of them. If it is so, you must make a concerted effort to step out from this zone. You must strive to emerge from this twilight existence. You must spray-clean your mind. If you throw the powerful spray of reason on these two zones, you will see before your eyes the little vicious bugs called "w" and "g" running away from you.

It is interesting as well as instructive to see how guilt

grows its grip on us. Just recollect to yourself how you feel when you think of something over which you feel "guilty". You at once feel bad. Your present is spoiled. You know it well that it cannot be helped but you feel bad, at times terribly bad. You have begun to manufacture your own misery. You go wherever you will, you carry your misery along. Strangely, the more you immerse yourself in this feeling, the more unhappy you get. In other words, guilt is self-generating machine. And it is you yourself that has willingly or unwillingly turned yourself into one.

Have you ever asked yourself why it happens like this? There are powerful cultural reasons and compulsions. Right from your early days you were taught to be good. If you were not good at times, you were taught to feel bad about it. In other words, for wrong done or good not done, you were supposed to feel guilty. Lack of feeling of guilt meant you were a devil. You did not possess enough good in you. So the foundation of the guilt-manufacturing factory was laid inside you. Without your knowing much about it, you have started demonstrating your neurosis.

This demonstration whether it is overt or not is one of the most useless forms of behaviour. It makes you spend colossal amounts of emotional energy over things which are not going to help you one bit in your success. The reason is simple. You have already "paralysed" yourself over something which is beyond redemption. No amount

of guilt nursing on your part will change the past.

This however does not mean that you cannot make use of the mistakes you have committed in the past. Regret is a milder feeling. Regret can be converted into reward. If you are simply learning from your past and deciding to avoid your past mistakes, it is not guilt-nursing. Learning from the past is a healthy and wholesome process of personality development.

While guilt can stem from childhood happenings, it can also be self-imposed. The latter is more harmful. It shows though an adult, you have chosen the path which only a child adopts. This is unwise and useless. It renders you no service.

One serious handicap in overcoming guilt complex is your cultural hang-up. Right from tender age, you have been nursed on the notion that enjoying life is a sinful activity. Having fun is not permitted. It results into permissivity. Nobody ever drew a sensible line between healthy enjoyment and clean fun. The result is that even when you are engaged in innocent activity, you tend to think that you are doing something wrong. Some invisible moralist is watching your conduct. Since you are not coming up to his mark, you are guilty. You are miserable. You are "paralysed". All this is sheer hogwash. Clean fun, healthy entertainment are your rights. There is no need to have hang-ups over these two.

Free yourself from these guilt producing areas.

Here is one illustration. I know of a person who enjoyed jokes sometimes bawdy ones too. But he felt guilty on hearing or narrating a bawdy one. It was only when he was told that there was nothing wrong or terribly sinful about bawdy jokes, that sex is a part of life that he grew out of his guilt complex. Cultural restraints in our society put restraints. Guilt is self-imposed. The point is you can learn to enjoy pleasurable things without being haunted by a sense of guilt. The cultural restraints are not meant to be violated. You will feel a disciplined and balanced person free from the load of guilt.

It may not occur to you but the stark fact is that guilt is resorted to because you think it "pays". It eliminates the urgency of concentrating on the present. You nosedive back to the past and think you are engaged in a serious exercise of purifying yourself. Like so many other mechanisms, guilt is avoidance technique to shift your mental activity away from the present.

You think that by feeling guilty enough you free yourself from the wrong. This attitude is typical and can be compared to that of a prisoner-syndrome from which our society suffers in a mighty big way. It thinks that by putting the "guilty" person behind the bars for long enough cures or purges him of his wrongs. Our judiciary works on the principle that longer the period of sentence, the greater the chances of purification. Could there be anything more disastrous? Apply the principle to you and find out the kind of injustice you have been inflicting on yourself.

This kind of attitude is also used for passing the buck. By brooding over it, you get sufficient time to find out a scape-

goat on whom you easily transfer the responsibility. And you know that the greatest sign of an immature personality is to take or face responsibility.

By shedding grief, weeping over your past errors or giving expression to your guilt ridden complexes you can win the sympathy of a large number of people. You know it if you have tried the trick. But once it develops into a habit pattern, you will be the greatest loser. You will do everything to win others' sympathy and nothing to rid yourself of your complexes. Stop it from today. From NOW.

Now even if you are a chronic case, do not worry. We are here to help you out. The first and most important thing for you to remember is that *your conduct is of your own choice*. No one has inflicted it upon you. To free yourself from it, you do not need anybody's help or direction. The choice is yours. All that you have to do is tell yourself that you do not like your own conduct. That you want to shed this bogey. That you want to free yourself from this handicap. The ground is set for next step. The spade work is done for a guilt-free personality. Here are the steps:

Past is an abstract notion. It is gone into history. You cannot change it. If you try to play fool with it you will be feeling all the more guilty. Perhaps this will not sound more convincing. Tell yourself: no amount of playing the reels of the past on the screen of my mind will make me a better personality. See the difference! Watch the change coming over you!

You have to ask yourself some pertinent questions. The most important being: What am I preventing in the present with guilt about the past? If you begin to work on this question in right earnest, you will

find yourself a different person. You will stop depending upon guilt as a prop.

Acceptance of yourself is not easy but one of the greatest ways to overcome this handicap. You may mentally project yourself as a bright brilliant being knowing full well that this image is a put-on. You also know in the heart of your hearts that this image of yours is not liked by others. The pointer is simple: if your near and dear ones stand up to you and contradict your image of yourself, do not feel miserable. It is natural to live up to your image but not at all necessary to seek every one's approval of it! It is most essential for you to seek your own approval of your conduct and actions. The rest is immaterial. Do not brush aside this point lightly. Once you no longer need approval, the guilt for conduct which fails to bring approval will not stand in your way. You feel guilt-free.

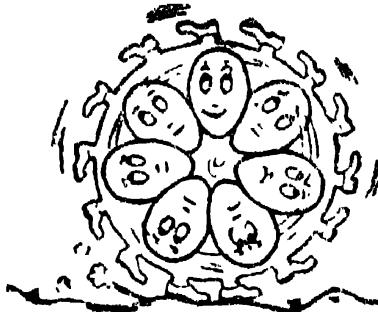
Reconsider your value system. Which values are the ones dearest, closest to you? You will discover that there are certain values which you only pretend to hold. You are being dishonest with yourself. It produces guilt. This can be shed by straightening your value system. Do not go by codes and values imposed by others. Frame your own set and stick to them.

Have a peep into your guilt zone. Do collect some data about actions which you think produce guilt in you. You should be able to see that certain things gnaw at the mind without any logical force. Others could be dismissed in two minutes. Do not let past spill over and agonize your present or spoil your future.

Take a good look at the consequences of your actions. Do not look for mystical explanations. Do not try to explain

(Contd. on page 364)

Sex and Social Responsibility



The spurt in sex crimes in the country has raised many eyebrows. There have been protests and rallies, demonstrations and newspapers have carried edits. The real problem has received only a fraction of the attention it should have. Sex is not merely an instinct as powerful as hunger but also a social responsibility. Our society has totally failed to impress upon itself this aspect. We look upon sex as a source of pleasure, an activity to be indulged in on the sly, discussion about it is taboo.

With the explosion of information on the subject and exposure to western media our moral custodians have begun to look a little more liberal in their outlook towards sex. But the dilemma remains. Once sex was taboo. Now it is away-with-inhibitions and sex-should-know-no barriers. It should be free for all. In other words there ought to be no strings attached to it. Sex should be synonymous with individual liberty.

In theory it seems to be logical and convincing. In practice it would turn out to be most dangerous concept to follow. It takes us down the primrose path promising many enticing pleasure but makes us abandon responsibility. No man can fully remain restrained and in control of his sensibilities unless he has been trained to control his wayward impulses.

The common man is swayed by lurid literature about group sex in free societies, wife swapping orgies, blue films and the

like. But his information about sex is spotty or schizoid. It is a mixture of smatterings from "authorities" and crumbs picked from smutty literature. The sexually free person displays information which seems sophisticated but his tragedy is like that of a semi illiterate person who knows nothing about his ignorance. At the subconscious level he might even be hungering for guidance and direction.

It is proper to think that sex is not a shameful act but it has to be separated from mere biological necessity, a purely tension release mechanism. At adult level sex has to be accepted more as a symbol, less as a release mechanism. It has to be sublimated. That is where responsibility comes in.

Sex is essential. It is therefore necessary to get down to essential sex which means cutting through artificialities and passing through thorns of ignorance, half-truths and misleading notions however attractive they appear at the surface. Essential sex means freedom from ignorance, taboo, hypocrisy and inhuman restraints. But it does not mean sex without responsibility. Unfortunately, sex is being looked upon as a game played purely for the fun of it. Even fun within a restraining framework is fine but without framework it degenerates with a game where no rules are followed.

While it is understandable to drag sex out of the bedroom and put it on the clinic table, it is unforgivable to treat it a

mere study of gentilia taking away all its human dimensions. Where authorities like Freud and Bertrand Russell advocated freedom in sex, they advocated freedom from crippling inhibitions that thwarted human happiness, not sexual license.

The concept of sex as a social responsibility had resulted in invisible custodians overlooking the moral conduct of all in the past. The words "wrong" and "right" had definite connotations. Now we have sexologists who tell us that anything less than full freedom is a sin, if not a folly. The pendulum has not only swung the other way, it has smashed the clock!

Responsibility is the very core of sex ethics. Sex crimes and other aberrations cannot be understood in proper perspective unless sex is seen from responsibility angle. Responsibility implies right responses to life. Responses depend on what symbols we attach to sex. If it is looked upon as a mere sexual biological release mechanism, there will be no diminishing the aberrations. If it is seen as a sublime force meant for cementing human relationships, continuation of the human race and pleasure a bonus for carrying on this responsibility, crime would go down. Sex would emerge in its true natural hues. It turns into love. Rousseau was right when he said, "It is just another one of those social restrictions."

Sex is the language of the body. Through it one com-
(Contd. on page 374)

MODEL PARAGRAPHS

Paragraph-writing is one of the compulsory questions in many of the higher-grade competitive examinations. Thoughts in certain well-known quotations are required to be developed into suitable paragraphs. Some examples are given hereunder.

In another's, yes, but in his own eye he sees no dirt.

(Burmese proverb)

Every one has his weaknesses and imperfections but it is an irony that we can see the straw in our neighbour's eye but not the beam in our own. The potter waxes eloquent on the quality of his own pots and pans but will pooh-pooh those lying stacked across the lane. The politician will harangue for hours on the omissions and commissions of the rival party, conveniently glossing over the follies and blunders his own party has committed. Fault-finding is a pastime in which every one takes delight, prompted, probably, by the Satan that lurks in us. The religious fanatic is particularly prone to this carping habit. He will swallow the miracles broadcast by his own religion but would strain at those found in others. When Moses leads his followers to the Red Sea, the Sea makes a dry path for them. That is a miracle wholly credible. But when Vasudev takes the child Krishna to the river Jamuna and the river makes a path, the story is absurd. Similarly Christ can feed from thousand persons with five fish and six loaves, but Draupadi's kitchen-pot cannot feed some twenty followers of Durvasa as narrated in the Hindu Scriptures. Miracles were invented to foster faith. Quite often they are pieces of symbolism. This way of looking at miracles will tone down fanaticism, if not obliterate it.

Liberty is always unfinished business.

(American Civil Liberties Union, 1955)

Man was born free, said Rousseau but he is everywhere in chains. It has been man's endeavour to break these chains. He breaks one set but like the mythical Phoenix they reappear to him in a different shape. For a thousand years the human spirit was cribbed, cabined and confined by the shackles of superstition and obscurantism. He kow-towed to the Roman Pope who lorded over kings and priests. The awakening came and Luther on one side and Copernicus on the other hurled defiance at the Papal citadel. Man started breathing the fresh air of religious freedom. But the loss of the Pope was the gain of kings who proved as great tyrants. Once again the struggle had to be waged, this time against political absolutism and the Divine Right of kings and princes. The struggle ended in the establishment of democracy whereby political power was distributed at first among a few and then it broadened down. But that was not the end of the story. The common man got the right to vote but that failed to fill his belly. So now the struggle has taken an economic orientation. Russian Revolution was followed by the Chinese Revolution. The struggle of the Have-nots has borne fruit. It is a writing on the wall for other countries. The struggle goes on at all times and in

all climes and the result is irresistible and inevitable.

Man is not made for defeat.

(Ernest Hemingway)

Man is midway between an animal and a god. In his physical appetites and urges he is akin to animals but in the strength and indomitability of spirit he resembles the gods. He is of the earth, but his thoughts are with the stars. Mean and petty his wants and desires, yet they serve a soul exalted with grand and glorious aims and his heart is set on achieving them. Let but an obstacle present itself and his spirit would not rest till he has overcome it. The faith that we fall to rise and are baffled only to fight better guides him at all times. Nature placed in his path deserts, mountains and seas. By his relentless efforts he spanned them all. The highest peaks as much as the deepest oceans have yielded to his inflexible determinations. The Everest beckoned him. He accepted the challenge. Expedition after expedition failed and even perished. But the struggle went on, and at last the unyielding spirit of man triumphed. The modern civilization has been built brick by brick, by the determination of man to rise superior to his environment. He has harnessed the forces of nature. He commands the macrocosm as well as the microcosm and there is no knowing what further heights

(Contd. on page 362)

1. Crime and Punishment

The news appearing in the *Indian Express* about the Bihar police gouging out the eyes of criminals as a "Final Punishment" to reduce the incidence of crime will shock the reader beyond measure. A more fiendish punishment could not be devised. It makes a mockery of all criminology. It is as horrendous a piece of news as Pakistan Government's amputations of the criminals' hands regarding which so much horror was expressed in our Press. Let the whole world know that in brutality we shall not allow Pakistan to outstrip us. We might even do one better.

What, one might ask, is the rationale of punishment? The object of punishment is three-fold; for just retribution; for the protection of society; for the reformation of the offender.

As for just retribution it is an extension of the ante-diluvian commandment of "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." The revenge is not left to the individual but society takes upon itself the role of the avenger. It is doubtful whether this pattern of retribution has succeeded as a deterrent, which it was intended to be. Even capital punishment has failed to deter persons from murdering their enemies.

As for the protection of society it is a moot point whether

this society which presumes to administer justice is in itself just. Law which is supposed to be blind discriminates between one person and another. There is one law for the rich and another for the poor. A fat purse can buy off anything and anyone. Moreover men at the top in every country have been committing crimes but laws have rarely laid their hand on them. As a rule there is no comparison between the crimes of great men who are always ambitious and those of the common people. But the small fry is caught in the net while the big fish goes scot-free.

The third object of punishment is the reformation of the offender. Every sociologist subscribes to this view and advocates more humane treatment of the prisoners. "Hate the sin and not the sinner" is a slogan which is shouted from the house-tops. Samuel Butler in his *Erewhon* has described an island where thieves and murderers are sent to the hospital for proper treatment. Crime, it is believed, very often results from faulty upbringing and improper training or frustration and desperation. What is needed, therefore, is a remedial training and discipline to make of the criminal a new individual. He must be reborn and born differently.

All this is necessary but not sufficient. It is a bitter truth that society prepares the crime and the criminal commits it. Most crimes are offences against property. The struggle for property leads to depredations and infractions of the principles of equal liberty in various ways. Greed on the one side and poverty on the other, is the cause of so-called crime. To cure crime, it is necessary to remove its cause. The disease of greed may not be curable but its baneful results can be obviated by destroying special privileges, out of which ensues poverty, and in turn breeds crime.

The convict in Hugo's *Les Misérables* is forced by hunger and privation to steal a loaf of bread and for this crime he is sent to prison. So long as people, being ill-governed, suffer from hunger, criminals will never disappear. It is extremely unkind to punish those, who, being sufferers from hunger, are compelled to violate laws.

Crime will last as long as old and gloomy humanity. But the number of criminals has diminished with the number of the wretched. The slums of the great cities are the feeding-grounds of crime.

The approach has to be neither punitive nor reformatory but ameliorative.

2. Woman's True Place and Power

Our newspapers are full of reports about suicides and gruesome burning of Hindu women because their parents could not afford the dowry demanded of

them. The reports make the sensitive reader sit up and ponder whether woman has any place, much less power in our society. We flaunt the quota-

tion from Manu "Where women are honoured, there reside the gods" and repeat, parrot-like, the names of Sita, Savitri, Gargi and Lilawati as the finest

products of our culture. But as things stand today we are treating women as no more than chattel. There is a yawning gap between our professions and actions.

It is the law of eternal justice that man cannot degrade woman without himself falling into degradation and he cannot raise her without himself getting better. With half of our population relegated to serfdom, our society can only limp along. The two wheels of the chariot must both be strong and sound.

The Christian story of the creation of woman makes interesting reading. "And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; and the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman." It is significant that woman was taken not out of his head to top him, nor out of his feet to be trampled under foot; but out of his side to be equal to him, under his arm to be protected and near his heart to be loved.

But the history of mankind is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations on the part of man towards woman, having his direct object the establishment of a tyranny over her. The first step in this direction was taken when woman was confined within the four walls of the home, something which she cheerfully accepted as her share in the division of labour. It was argued that men have broad and large chests, and small narrow hips, and are more understanding than women, who have but small and narrow chests, and broad hips, to the end they should remain at home, sit still, keep house, and bear and bring up children.

What was only division of labour degenerated into woman's economic dependence on man thereby perpetuating his

sway. The K o r a n correctly sums up the situation "Men are in charge of women, because Allah hath made the one of them to excel the other and because they spend their property for the support of women."

It is economic dependence, then, which made the woman a slave and a drudge. Man forgot that woman's domestic duties were, economically, as productive as man's out-door duties. It has been beautifully said that a rich man engages a cook, a launderer, a sweeper, a steward and a nurse but the poor man simply marries. It is therefore man's short-sightedness, even folly that is turning woman from the subservience of home to the independence which other avenues of employment confer. It is a different matter that by so doing she is posing a threat to man's employment opportunities. But man's own deeds

are upon his head.

Already woman has made a big impact on every sphere of activity. In education and administration, medical line and film-land she is a force to reckon with. And all this inspite of social handicaps and disadvantages. The best sources of knowledge are shut off from them, and the surprise is that they manage to keep so abreast of men.

Man, therefore, must redress the wrong he has done to woman and give her rightful place, if not for justice, at least in his own interest. In many respects she is man's superior, in patience, endurance, fortitude, compassion and in sagacity. When she comes into her own she will be a tremendous force for peace. She is the embodiment of Shakti, a Shakti for peaceful and creative endeavours.

MODEL PARAGRAPHS (*Contd. from page 360*)

he scales by virtue of his invincible will.

It is good to be born in a church but bad to die in it.

(*Swami Vivekananda*)

The founders of the great religions, Buddha, Jesus, Lao-Tze, Mohammad all seem to have striven for a world-wide brotherhood of man but unfortunately for mankind the followers have divided themselves into water-tight compartments. Religion which was sought to bind all men together with the silken cords of love has engendered hatred. There is nothing wrong in belonging to a church, to follow its code of conduct, to be subject to its discipline. It makes for a sense of community, the getting-together for a cause, a mission and an ideal. Viewed thus,

membership of a church is unexceptionable, even commendable. But what is necessary is the growing out of this limitation and developing a universal consciousness. Religions should grow and broaden into the true religion of humanity. It is all the more necessary today when science by annihilating space has made even the antipodes next-door neighbours. The old sectarian attitude is not only irrelevant today but disastrous breeding fanaticism and all that goes with it, persecution, religious pride, the love of contradiction, intolerance and an insular outlook. A much greater awareness is needed. Religion is a candle inside a multi-coloured lantern. Everyone looks through a particular colour, but the candle is always there.

Intelligence TEST

1. Insert the mathematical signs in between the numbers:

- (a) 5 7 3 27 9 = 99
- (b) 4 6 10 5 = 4
- (c) 11 12 51 9 = 9
- (d) 13 7 4 12 17 = 43
- (e) 2 2 2 4 7 124 = 100

2. By simple additions only, make eight 4s equal 500.

3. By simple multiplication and a minus make six 6s equal 1230.

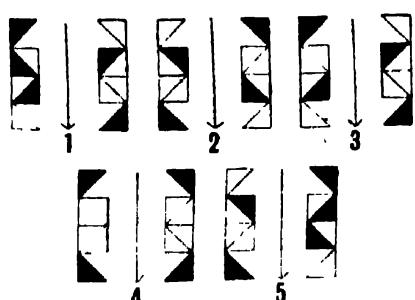
4. Supply the missing numbers in this multiplication problem:

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \times 2 \\
 \hline
 1 7 0 \\
 \hline
 \\
 \hline
 \\
 \hline
 \\
 \end{array}$$

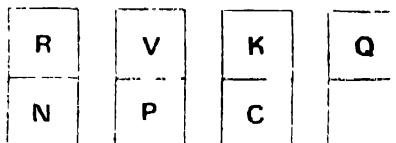
5. Supply the missing numbers in the following addition problem:

$$\begin{array}{r}
 5 7 9 0 \\
 + 3 1 - \\
 \hline
 8 2
 \end{array}$$

6. Write the number of the odd man out.



7. Insert the missing letter.



8. Find the word missing from the brackets.

Worker (roam) amaze
Tester (....) omen

9. Find the word that means the same as the two words outside the brackets.

Weapon (...) tie

10. Find the missing letter.
B E — Q Z

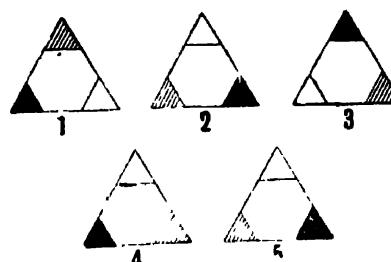
11. Give one word for the following: —

Material for road-making with successive layers of broken stone nearly uniform in size, each subjected to pressure before next is laid.

12. Give one word for the following ending in "ism".

Development of secondary male characteristics in female or precocity in male.

13. Find the odd man out.



14. Replace the sign of interrogation with the correct letter.

? R T
R O E
T E A

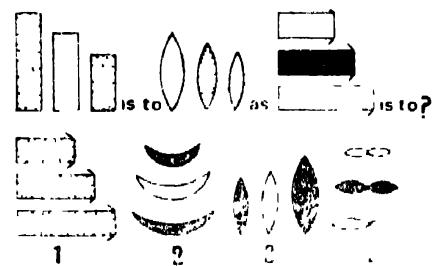
15. What number comes next?

71 68 77 50 —

16. HOLY is to SLOB as LOW is to?

ONE OLD GLOW BOW
SOW

17. Which group of figures comes next?



18. Insert the missing word.

DEEM = DEEP
SKATE = ?

19. While taking a walk in the early hours of the morning, you see a girl obviously being molested by two goondas. You will:—

(a) challenge the goondas and save the girl.

(b) keep walking thinking it is none of your business.

(c) lodge a complaint at the nearest police-station.

(d) shout for help.

(e) encourage the girl to fight it out.

20. How long is one rod?

21. What are the following relating to mathematics?

AEGLN TERAIGLN
TONIP RETNLGCEA

22. A man travels to work on a circular railway. His office is diametrically opposite to his house. In one direction at 40 miles an hour, the journey takes him only one hour and twenty minutes. In the other at the same speed it takes 80 minutes. How so?

23. Select the correct group of figures from the six numbered ones.

III III III
III III
III

II II II
II II

I I ?
I I

II III I
1 2 3

II
II II I
II II I
4 5 6

Answers and Explanations

1. (a) $+ \div \times -$ (b) $- \times$
(c) $\times - \div$ (d) $+ \div \times$
(e) $\times \times \times \times -$

2. $4+4+4+44+444=500$

3. $6\times 6\times 6\times 6-66=1230$

4 3426
 $\times 24$

 13704

6852

$\underline{82224}$

5 5790
 2312

 8102

6. 4 (1 and 5, and 2 and 3, are complementary with the triangles, which are black in the one, white in the other. 4 does not fit into this scheme. Also in the others the two sides (right and left of the arrows) are complementary; in 4 they are identical.)

7. G. (The bottom letter is four, six, eight, and ten places in the alphabet back from the top letter.)

8. SEEM. (The word in brackets is made up of the third and second letters, in that order, of the words on either side of the brackets.)

9. BOW.

10. J. (Numbered consecutively, the letters are 2, 5, 10, 17, and 26. These numbers are the squares of the first five numbers (1, 2, 3, 4, 5) with one added each time. $3^2 = 9$; $9 + 1 = 10$, and the tenth letter is J.)

11. Macadam.

12. Virilism.

13. 4. (The black, white, and shaded portions rotate positions anti-clockwise; in 4 the shaded and white portions are in the wrong positions.)

14. A. (Rows and columns give the same words and A is the only letter that will make a word.)

15. 131. (Add and subtract alternately the numbers 3, 9, 27, 81 respectively; i.e., treble each time.)

16. OLD (H is the eighth letter of the alphabet, and S is the eighth letter of the alphabet written backwards. Similarly all the other letters in each pair of words correspond.)

17. 2. (Shading is transferred from outer figures to inner figures and vice versa; position (upright or horizontal) remains constant.)

18. SKATH. (P is the third letter from M; H is the third letter from E.)

19. (a).

20. $5\frac{1}{2}$ yards.

21. Angle, Triangle, Point, Rectangle.

22. How many minutes in an hour and 20 minutes?

23. 3. (The Is decrease by one in each direction.)

Police and Communal Riots (Contd. from page 356)

order. Lately, the Army has been asked to intervene too often, even though maintaining law and order internally is not the basic aim of the military forces. Their duty is to defend the country against aggression. In any case, the S.P.F. of mixed battalions would be an experiment; there is nothing to stop the Government from disbanding the new Force if it proves useless. It would be unfair to condemn the very idea at the start. Rather, steps should be taken, after a full discussion, for making the Special Force really effective. The formation of the S.P.F. will enable members of the communities which are not well represented in the existing police force to get a larger share. This will remove at least one grievance of the oppressed section.

Personality Development (Contd. from page 358)

away your actions. Have a sound logical system for your behaviour and conduct. Be guided by whether your actions are going to benefit you, harm your interest or just lead you down the abyss of guilt.

Do not let others control your life. Once you defuse others' control over you, guilt will vanish. The emotional remote control and the possibility of manipulation will lessen, freeing you from the terror of guilt which stems from being untrue to your own self.

Objective-Type Tests

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Look to the answers at the end only after you have yourself solved all the questions.

Work as fast and as carefully as you can.

Q. I. Tick mark the most appropriate word to be filled in the blank space.

A. Snobs are usually— of people they feel to be beneath them.

- (a) contemptible
- (b) presumptuous
- (c) contemptuous

B. The — of vacationing students added a spirit of gaiety to the town.

- (a) crux
- (b) flux
- (c) influx

C. We had to listen for an hour to a veritable — about her wonderful grandchild.

- (a) monologue
- (b) dialogue
- (c) dialogue

D. The coroner was called to examine the — of the unfortunate victim.

- (a) carcass
- (b) corps
- (c) corpse

E. The silly fellow has given away his bungalow for no more than a mess of —.

- (a) dotage
- (b) monage
- (c) pottage

F. They — their real

G. The Pilgrims came to America after being — for their religious beliefs.

- (a) prosecuted
- (b) executed
- (c) persecuted

H. There are gross violations of the law against dangerous — being poured into our rivers.

- (a) fluent
- (b) effluent
- (c) affluent

I. People are not free to express opinions against the government in a — state

- (a) democratic
- (b) monolithic
- (c) secular

J. Thousands of Romans assembled in the arena to watch the — fighting.

- (a) alligators
- (b) gladiators
- (c) flagellators

Q. II. Pick out the appropriate alternative/alternatives.

A. When I found that he was not agreeable to partnership in business I decided to —.

- (a) go alone
- (b) go it alone
- (c) go all alone

B. He used to be a tippler but since the death of his father he has —.

- (a) turned a new leaf
- (b) turned to a new leaf
- (c) turned over a new leaf

C. When the Professor found that he was talking over the heads of the students —.

- (a) he cut out the lecture
- (b) he cut off the lecture
- (c) he cut short the lecture

D. Her mind hardened as she became used to difficulties and she became —.

- (a) impatient of weaker people
- (b) impatient with weaker people
- (c) impatient towards weaker people

E. She expostulated with her husband —.

- (a) on his habit of chain-smoking
- (b) over his habit of chain-smoking
- (c) upon his habit of chain-smoking

Q. III. Indicate by its number the portion of the sentence in which a mistake occurs. There is only one mistake in each sentence.

(a) In my hour of need (1) I requested him to lend me a few pounds (2) and he refused to do so (3).

(b) The Indian housewife is so busy with domestic work (1) that she has no time for reading newspapers (2) and no desire neither (3).

(c) Of all the news published in today's paper (1) none are more shocking (2) than the

callous blinding of criminals (3).

(d) The tragedies of Shakespeare are, according to Hazlitt, (1) superior in construction and diction (2) than comedies and histories (3).

(e) More foolish and more indecent words (1) have never been uttered (2) from the mouth of man (3).

(f) Few will disagree (1) that the interest of a novel and a drama (2) depends a great deal on the plot (3).

(g) The latest census tells us (1) that the population of Calcutta is greater (2) than any other town in India (3).

(h) When I reached his bungalow (1) I was told by the butler (2) that my friend left for Simla two days back (3).

(i) Of the three poets, Tennyson, Browning and Arnold (1) all belonging to the Victorian age (2) the latter is nearest in spirit to us (3).

(j) Bacon has said in his Essays (1) that reading of history adds (2) to our knowledge as well as wisdom (3).

Q. IV. Tick mark the sentence/sentences in which the head-word has been incorrectly used.

A. Effect

(a) The prisoner effected his escape at dead of night.

(b) The damp climate has effected my health.

(c) What is the effect of the Gulf-war on world prices.

B. Provoke

(a) His remarks provoked protests from many quarters.

(b) The plays of Bernard Shaw not only give delight but also provoke thought.

(c) We provoke the blessings of the Deity at the beginning of any religious rite.

C. Composed

(a) He composed a beautiful song for the occasion.

(b) Inspite of frequent interruptions he remained composed.

(c) Composed enriches the soil as nothing else does.

D. Discard

(a) Your health cannot improve unless you discard smoking.

(b) The family discard has ruined their business.

(c) It is strange that we discard old clothes but not old ideas.

E. Troop

(a) When the situation worsened, troops were called out.

(b) A troop of young artistes visited Middle East countries recently.

(c) The children trooped into the kitchen and clamoured for food.

Q. V. Indicate as directed:

(a) An apple a day keeps the doctor away because apples are good for health.

(Correct/Incorrect)

(b) A pin a day is a groat a year because there are 365 pins in a groat.

(Correct/Incorrect)

(c) A bald head is soon shaved because there is hardly anything to shave.

(Correct/Incorrect)

(d) All are not saints that go to church because some of them may be hypocrites.

(Correct/Incorrect)

(e) Love me, love my dog because my dog is also beautiful.

(Correct/Incorrect)

Q. VI. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given at the end.

Unemployment in the modern society which is built on the capitalist system is a necessary evil. The capitalist grows richer and richer with the concentration of wealth in his hands at the expense of the poor. The feudal system of old was unjust and cruel, but it had no un-

employment problem to face. The Socialist systems of Russia or China have no unemployment because the capitalist which has selfish aim of exploitation does not exist. Industry is state-owned. The State guarantees work, food and clothing to everyone. Industry is run for the benefit of workers themselves. Production is always planned. Since returns of production in the shape of wealth are distributed amongst the workers their purchasing power also increases. Hence they can consume more and more of the goods manufactured. The Socialist system does not seek to glut the market to ruin the worker. Thus unemployment is unheard of in Soviet Russia. We read practically daily in papers figures of the unemployed in a wealthy country like America or a highly industrialized country like England.

The capitalist system has to face many crises. These crises are responsible for unemployment. When a slump or a depression comes, the capitalist owner of the industry who runs it with a profit-motive, closes it down at a moment's notice. Thousands are thrown out of job and are left either to starve on the roadside or to live on Government doles. War is the only remedy for unemployment known to this bankrupt system. And what is a war? It is again the exploitation of the poor by the rich—the vested interests of a country. The remedy for unemployment under this system then is more terrible than the disease.

How can we solve the unemployment problem. Obviously the answer will be either by discarding machines altogether and reverting to the economy of good old times or by eliminating the capitalist and running the machines for the benefit of the workers. All industry should be nationalized.

The Government should have a planned economy. This planning should be done keeping in view the welfare of the common man and not a handful of rich industrialists and landlords. New industries should be started to provide more and more of work. India is an under-developed country. There is no dearth of work here. In all spheres of its economy it requires more and more men. Its natural resources are immense but untapped so far. If we try to exploit its natural wealth in the proper way we shall find that we need more people than we have actually got for assistance.

Unemployment is a great curse. It wrecks society. It turns law-abiding and honest men into criminals and dacoits. In fact, it brings on the surface the evil side of human character. It is a great danger to the Government itself. Soon this discontent gives place to agitation against the Government. Agitation may result in political unrest or a revolution. A wise Government will always keep an eye on the unemployed and keep down their number as much as it can.

q. 1. Which of the following is the most appropriate title to the passage?

- (a) The Curse of Unemployment
- (b) Capitalism and Unemployment
- (c) Causes of Unemployment

q. 2. The key-sentence in the passage is:

- (a) Unemployment is a great curse
- (b) The capitalist system has to face many crises
- (c) The Government should have a planned economy

q. 3. Which of the following steps are suggested by the

writer to combat unemployment? (c) 2 (none is so shocking)
(d) 3 (to comedies and histories)

- (a) Abolish machinery
- (b) Introduce unemployment doles
- (c) Planned economy
- (d) Waging a war
- (e) Starting new industries
- (f) Exploiting the country's resources fully
- (g) 3 (depend a great deal)
- (h) 3 (than that of any other town)
- (i) 3 (that my friend had left for Simla)
- (j) 2 (words more foolish and more indecent)

q. 4. Arrange the following ideas in the order in which they occur in the passage:

- (a) War is no solution to the unemployment problem
- (b) Unemployment creates unrest
- (c) Capitalism makes the rich richer
- (d) India's resources have yet to be fully utilized
- (e) The capitalist is always guided by profit-motive
- (f) There is no unemployment in communist countries

q. 5. Explain:

- (a) The Socialist system does not seek to glut the market to ruin the worker.
- (b) The remedy for unemployment under this system (capitalism) is more than the disease.
- (c) It (unemployment) brings on the surface the evil side of human character.

ANSWERS

(Question I)

A. (c)	B. (c)
C. (a)	D. (c)
E. (c)	F. (b)
G. (c)	H. (b)
I. (b)	J. (b)

(Question II)

A. (b)	B. (c)
C. (c)	D. (a)
E. (a)	

(Question III)

(a) 3 (but he refused)	
(b) 3 (and no desire either)	

(e) 1 (words more foolish and more indecent)

(f) 3 (depend a great deal)

(g) 3 (than that of any other town)

(h) 3 (that my friend had left for Simla)

(i) 3 (the last is nearest)

(j) 2 (that the reading of history)

(Question IV)

A. (b)	B. (c)
C. (c)	D. (b)
E. (b)	

(Question V)

(a) Correct	(b) Incorrect
(c) Incorrect	(d) Correct
(e) Incorrect	

(Question VI)

q. 1. (b)	
q. 2. (c)	
q. 3. (c), (e) and (f)	
q. 4. (c) (f) (e) (a) (d) (b)	

q. 5. (a) The Socialist system plans its production according to the needs of the country and does not allow excessive production which will ultimately throw the workers on the roadside.

(b) When unemployment grows to excess the capitalist manipulates war in which the poor, though they get jobs as soldiers, get killed.

(c) The unemployed are driven by hunger and poverty to resort to dacoities and murders, cheating and gambling.

Objective-Type Tests

EVERYDAY SCIENCE

Look to the answers at the end only after you have yourself solved all the questions.

Work as fast and as carefully as you can.

Tick-mark the correct answer out of the choices given.

1. The atomic mass of a proton is 1836/1837 of the mass of the most abundant atom of:

- (a) hydrogen
- (b) radium
- (c) oxygen
- (d) carbon

2. The electric charge of a proton is equal in magnitude to that of:

- (a) hydrogen atom
- (b) electron
- (c) neutron
- (d) alpha particle

3. Which of the following is a compound?

- (a) air
- (b) stainless steel
- (c) sea-water
- (d) marble

4. Copper and tin are the chief constituents of:

- (a) brass
- (b) type metal
- (c) german silver
- (d) bronze

5. A metal obtained by the electrolytic process is:

- (a) aluminium
- (b) copper
- (c) zinc
- (d) mercury

6. The distance a wave travels in time for a complete vibration of its source is its:

- (a) amplitude
- (b) frequency

- (c) wave length
- (d) period

7. To produce parallel rays, automobile headlights generally have reflectors that are:

- (a) plane
- (b) spherical
- (c) parabolic
- (d) hyperbolic

8. When a disc which has the pure spectral colours painted on it in proper proportion is rotated rapidly, it produces:

- (a) black light
- (b) white light
- (c) ultra violet
- (d) infra red

9. A hard rubber is stroked with fur. The charge on the fur is due to a net deficiency of:

- (a) neutrons
- (b) protons
- (c) electrons
- (d) positrons

10. The charge on one electron expressed in coulombs is:

- (a) 1.0
- (b) 6.25×10^{-19}
- (c) 1.60×10^{-19}
- (d) 6.02×10^{23}

11. Passage of materials through the membrane of a cell is called:

- (a) assimilation
- (b) diffusion
- (c) circulation
- (d) transpiration

12. Which is most closely associated with the process of

transpiration:

- (a) spiracles of a grasshopper
- (b) root of a geranium
- (c) leaf of a maple
- (d) gills of a fish

13. Which of the following produces the smallest egg cell?

- (a) frogs
- (b) humans
- (c) robins
- (d) turtles

14. A tree trunk increases in diameter because of cell division in thin layer of tissue known as the:

- (a) cambium
- (b) epidermis
- (c) phloem
- (d) pith

15. A recently discovered living animal that connects water animals with land animals is the:

- (a) archaeopteryx
- (b) coelacanth
- (c) eohippus
- (d) pterodactyl

16. Our knowledge of the pancreas was greatly increased as a direct result of the work of:

- (a) Banting
- (b) Brown
- (c) Goldberger
- (d) Pasteur

17. A light stimulus which has been converted to a nerve impulse is interpreted by the:

- (a) cerebrum
- (b) cerebellum

- (c) medulla
- (d) spinal cord

18. In order to prevent tooth decay in children, some water supply undertakings add to their water supply a compound of:

- (a) chlorine
- (b) fluorine
- (c) nitrogen
- (d) oxygen

19. A one-celled saprophytic plant that reproduces by budding is the:

- (a) bread mold
- (b) hydra
- (c) spirogyra
- (d) yeast

20. Which process reduces competition among plant offspring?

- (a) cross-pollination
- (b) germination
- (c) seed dispersal
- (d) self-pollination

21. The moon rises at a different time on consecutive days because:

- (a) it is slowing down
- (b) the earth is moving around the sun
- (c) the earth rotates from east to west
- (d) the earth rotates from west to east

22. When compared to mountains on the earth, mountains on the moon are:

- (a) much smaller
- (b) about the same size
- (c) larger
- (d) much larger

23. The temperature on the lighted half of the moon is as high as:

- (a) 220°C
- (b) -151°C
- (c) 240°C
- (d) 104°C

24. Other than the earth, no planet in the solar system has:

- (a) an atmosphere
- (b) a companion so nearly its own size
- (c) storms

- (d) gravity

25. In each of its revolutions around the earth, the moon does not come directly between the sun and the earth because the:

- (a) earth's axis tilts
- (b) moon's orbit tilts
- (c) moon does not rotate
- (d) earth's orbit tilts

Increases (I), Decreases (D); Remains the same (RS)

26. During the process of charging by conduction the charge on the charging body—.

27. During the process of induction, the charge on the inducing body—.

28. When an earth-connected conductor is placed near a charged conductor, the potential of the latter—.

29. When two conductors share their charges by connecting them by a wire, the total energy—.

30. On heating a magnet, its strength—.

31. True-False Tests

Directions: In some of the following statements, the term in *italics* makes the statement incorrect. For each incorrect statement, write the term that must be substituted for the italicised term to make the statement correct. For each correct statement, write the word true.

(a) Disease bacteria make us ill because of the *antibodies* they produce.

(b) Surgical operations are much safer today than 100 years ago because of the work of *Lister*.

(c) The growing layer of cells in the trunk of a maple tree is called *epidermis*.

(d) Pollen from ragweed causes an allergy called *hay fever*.

(e) A process that destroys all bacteria is called *pasteurisation*.

Fill in the blanks

32. Suggest the word or words required to complete each of the following statements.

(a) A plant wilts when it loses by transpiration more— than it takes from the soil.

(b) The respiratory centre of the brain is located in the—.

(c) The digestion of protein begins in the stomach and is completed in the—.

(d) A mammal whose "fingers" have been modified to form wing structures is the—.

(e) After removal of the gall bladder, a person's diet should be low in—.

ANSWERS

1. (a)	2. (b)
3. (d)	4. (d)
5. (a)	6. (c)
7. (c)	8. (b)
9. (c)	10. (c)
11. (b)	12. (c)
13. (b)	14. (a)
15. (b)	16. (a)
17. (a)	18. (b)
19. (d)	20. (c)
21. (d)	22. (b)
23. (d)	24. (b)
25. (b)	26. D
27. RS	28. D
29. D	30. D

31. (a) toxins
 (b) true
 (c) cambium
 (d) true
 (e) sterilisation

32. (a) water
 (b) medulla
 (c) small intestine
 (d) bat
 (e) fat

Objective-Type Tests

GENERAL STUDIES

The latest pattern of written papers in the competitive examinations for recruitment in Banking, Civil and Defence Services is based on Objective-Type Tests.

Answers are given at the end of this feature. Look to the answers only after you have yourself solved all the questions.

Work as fast and as carefully as you can.

**Tick-mark the correct choice.
More than one choice may be correct.**

1. Who, among the following, is the Prime Minister of the U.S.S.R.?

- (a) Alexei Kosygin
- (b) Leonid Brezhnev
- (c) Nikolai Tikhonov
- (d) Andrei Gromyko

2. Who, among the following, has/had won a Nobel Peace Prize:

- (a) Mahatma Gandhi
- (b) Jawaharlal Nehru
- (c) Mother Teresa
- (d) Anwar Sadat (President of Egypt)

3. Whose birth bicentenary (200th birthday) was celebrated on November 13 last:

- (a) Munshi Prem Chand
- (b) Maharaja Ranjit Singh
- (c) Rabindra Nath Tagore
- (d) Bal Gangadhar Tilak

4. An important route for international traffic between the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman is:

- (a) Strait of Hormuz
- (b) Shatt-al-Arab
- (c) Abadan
- (d) Khorramshahr

5. On November 12 last, the U.S. spacecraft Voyager-I entered the realm of the planet:

- (a) Neptune
- (b) Jupiter

- (c) Pluto
- (d) Saturn

6. The Chairman of the Bharatiya Janata Party is:

- (a) Morarji Desai
- (b) Charan Singh
- (c) Jagjivan Ram
- (d) Atal Behari Vajpayee

7. Under the provisions of the Indian Constitution, a judge of the Supreme Court can be removed from office by the:

- (a) Prime Minister of India
- (b) President of India
- (c) Members of the Parliament by not less than two-third majority vote
- (d) Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of India

8. Who presides over the meetings of the Rajya Sabha?

- (a) Vice-President of India
- (b) President of India
- (c) Prime Minister of India
- (d) Speaker

9. Who was the first President of the Indian Republic?

- (a) Dr S. Radhakrishnan
- (b) Shri C. Rajagopalachari
- (c) Dr Rajendra Prasad
- (d) Mahatma Gandhi

10. Who appoints the Governor of an Indian State?

- (a) Prime Minister
- (b) President
- (c) Union Cabinet
- (d) Vice-President

11. Which battle laid the foundation of the Mughal rule in India?

- (a) Battle of Plassey
- (b) Battle of Talikota
- (c) First Battle of Panipat
- (d) Third Battle of Panipat

12. In which year did Tenzing climb Mt Everest?

- (a) 1943
- (b) 1953
- (c) 1963
- (d) 1973

13. In which year was the first non-co-operation movement launched by the Congress?

- (a) 1920
- (b) 1930
- (c) 1940
- (d) 1942

14. In which year did Columbus discover America?

- (a) 1492
- (b) 1498
- (c) 1592
- (d) 1698

15. Aryans settled in northern India because they:

- (a) found that the land was fertile
- (b) considered the Northern India inhabited by savage people
- (c) found the climate similar to that of Central Asia
- (d) were fascinated by the local culture

(Contd. on page 372)



SPORTS

ATHLETICS

Asian Championships: The fifth Asian Amateur Athletic Championships will be held at Tokyo in the first week of June next. This was disclosed at Chandigarh on November 14 by Mr Seiko Yasuda, President of the Asian Amateur Athletic Association, who was on a short visit to the city.

National Record: Participating in the Inter-Railway Athletic Championships at New Delhi on December 2, Bakhtawar Khambatta (Western Railway) bettered the national record in putting the shot with a throw measuring 13.26 metres. The previous best of 13.10 metres stood in the name of Subrata Debnath of Bengal.

Gopal Saini of Western Railway was adjudged the best athlete of the meet and bagged the Marshal Tito Gold Medal for the second year in succession. He topped in 5,000 and 10,000 metres races and the 3,000 metres steeplechase.

M. Bhaskaran, captain of India's victorious team at the Moscow Olympic Games, was declared "Sportsman of the Year."

BADMINTON

Junior National Championships: True to expectations, Sanjay Mehrotra of Uttar Pradesh won the boys' title in the Junior National Badminton Championships at Jamshedpur on November 17. In the final, he defeated Delhi's Anup Sethi in straight games by 15-9, 15-8.

In the girls' section, Maharashtra's Radhika Bose emerged champion defeating Madhumita Goswami of Railways by 11-9, 11-9.

Narang Cup: Punjab lifted the Narang Cup when they defeated Combined Universities 2-1 in the final of the Inter-State Junior National Badminton Championships at Jamshedpur on November 13.

Qureshi Cup: The Qureshi Cup for girls was claimed by Combined Universities with a 2-1 win over Maharashtra, the holders.

Pro Licence For Prakash: At a meeting of its executive committee at New Delhi on November 23, the Badminton Association of India allowed Prakash Padukone to become a licensed player. Prakash, who has been expressing a desire to turn a profes-

sional player, is the first Indian to be permitted to become a licensed player. This will entitle him to participate in prize-money tournaments and keep the money, which previously he had to surrender to the B.A.I.

BASKETBALL

Inter-University Championship: Madras University retained the All-India Inter-University Basketball Championship at Baroda on December 3. In the final, they defeated Bombay by 84 points to 67.

BOXING

Junior National Championships: M. Srihari (Services) and K. Chand (Bihar) were declared most scientific boxer and best loser respectively in the 13th Junior National Boxing Championships which concluded at Chandigarh on November 30.

Collecting 28 points, Services wrested the team title for the 13th consecutive time. Bengal finished runners-up with 14 points.

The individual national champions in various weights were:

Light Fly: Ajay Singh (Services); *Fly:* Deba Tamang (Bengal); *Bantam:* Love Joy (Services); *Feather:* A. Dey (Services); *Light Welter:* M. Srihari (Services) and *Welter:* Jagdish Chander (Haryana).

CHESS

U.S.S.R.'s Double Triumph: The Soviet Union scored a double triumph at the Chess Olympiad at Vellata (Malta) on December 7 when they carried away gold medals in both the men's and women's sections. The men took the title on the number of games after finishing level with Hungary on 39 points. The women had just half a point lead over Hungary.

CRICKET

C.K. Naidu Inter-Zonal Tournament: North Zone scored a creditable victory in the final of the C.K. Naidu Inter-Zonal Cricket Tournament when they defeated West Zone, the holders, by 123 runs at Cuttack on November 24.

SCORES:

North Zone: 286 and 232.
West Zone: 220 and 175.

Benson and Hedges Cup: India defeated Australia by 66 runs in their first limited overs Benson and Hedges World Series Cup match at Melbourne on December 6. After hitting up 208 for nine, India dismissed the home side for 142. The Indians picked up \$ (Aust) 3,500 (approximately Rs. 35,000), including \$ (Aust) 580 of Sandeep Patil who was voted "man of the match".

Pak-West Indies Test: The first Test between Pakistan and West Indies resulted in a tame draw at Lahore on November 29, rain having curtailed the match to four days.

While scoring his maiden Test century, Imran Khan became the second Pakistani to achieve the double of 1,000 runs and 100 wickets in Test cricket and the 21st player in the world to claim that distinction.

SCORES:

Pakistan: 369 and 156 for seven.
West Indies: 297.

Australia-New Zealand Test: Australia routed New Zealand to win the first Test by 10 wickets, with two days to spare, at Brisbane on November 30. Speedster Dennis Lillee put up the best performance by claiming six wickets for 53 runs in the Kiwis' second knock.

SCORES:

Australia: 305 and 63 for no wicket.
New Zealand: 225 and 142.

CYCLING

National Championships: Displaying remarkable speed, skill and stamina, Satnam Singh Mann of Bihar collected 20 points to claim the best cyclist award in the 36th National Championships which concluded at Patiala on December 1. With a record-breaking timing of 12.02 seconds in 1,000 metres sprint, he also became the fastest cyclist in the country.

Winning three top positions, Khurshid Irani of Karnataka romped home with the best cyclist award in the women's section.

FOOTBALL

Subroto Mukerjee Cup: Government High School, Dimapur (Nagaland) and Ibencha High School, Manipur, became joint winners of the Subroto Mukerjee Football Cup at New Delhi on November 26. Each team scored one goal in the final.

The late Air Marshal Subroto Mukerjee, President of the Durand

Football Tournament Committee in 1960, proposed that the best way to utilise its profits was to invest these in a competition open to schools only, with no player above the age of 17. The Air Marshal unfortunately died the same year but the tournament has been played regularly.

GOLF

New Amateur National Champion: Rajiv Mohta of Bombay became the new amateur golf champion of India at New Delhi on November 30. In the final, he defeated Sanjeev Talwar of Delhi 2 and 1.

HOCKEY

Nehru Tournament: In an all-Jullundur replayed final, Punjab Police defeated E.M.E. by two goals to nil in the Nehru Hockey Tournament at New Delhi on December 10. In their first meeting, each team had scored one goal.

This was Punjab Police's second cup victory. Previously, they had won the tournament in 1976 and had been runners-up in 1975 and 1978. For E.M.E., it was their maiden appearance in the final of the tournament.

Dhyan Chand Tournament: Central Reserve Police, Neemuch, won the Dhyan Chand Hockey Tournament at Agra on November 16. In the final, they defeated Western Railway, Bombay, by a second half penalty-stroke goal.

Junior Nehru Tournament: Sri Guru Hari Singh Mahavidyalaya, Jiwan Nagar (Haryana) and Brahmin Anglo-Vedic Inter College of Meerut were declared joint winners of the Junior Nehru Hockey Tournament which concluded at New Delhi on November 14. The final match ended in a goalless draw. The spin of coin favoured the Haryana team who will keep the trophy for the first six months.

Asian Cup: Eight countries, including China, will participate in the final round of the inaugural Asian Cup Hockey Tournament at Lahore next March, according to an announcement made by the Asian Hockey Federation at Karachi on November 26. The other competing countries will be India, Pakistan, Malaysia, Singapore, Japan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh.

New I.H.F. Chief: Mr Inder Mohan Mahajan of Delhi was unanimously elected President of the Indian Hockey Federation at New Delhi on December 7. He took over from Mr M.A.M. Ramaswamy. With him came Mr K.L. Passi of Bombay as the new Hon. Secretary.

A hockey player of national status, Mr Mahajan has played an important role in the development of the game in the country and has held several important positions in organisation. He was manager of the Indian teams which won the Lyons International Hockey Tournament in 1963, the World Olympic title at the 1964 Tokyo World Olympic Games and 1966 Asian Games at Bangkok.

TENNIS

Davis Cup: Czechoslovakia became the first East European country to win the coveted 81-year-old Davis Cup Tennis Tournament at Prague on December 7 when they established an unassailable 3-0 lead over Italy. This was Italy's third defeat in the last four finals.

Junior National Championships: Top-seeded Deepak Bhargava of Uttar Pradesh justified his placing when he defeated Andhra's Rajit Pillai by 4-6, 6-3, 7-5 in the final of the Junior National Tennis Championships at Lucknow on November 23.

Bangkok Classic: India's ace player Vijay Amritraj won the \$ 75,000 Bangkok Tennis Classic defeating American Brian Teacher by 6-3, 7-5 in the final at Bangkok on November 23. Teacher and compatriot Ferdi Taygan clinched the doubles title with a 7-6, 7-6 win over Tom Okker of Netherlands and Dick Stockton of the U.S.A.

Objective-Type Tests—General Studies (Contd. from page 370)

16. Dyarchy was introduced in India under the:

- (a) Government of India Act, 1919
- (b) Government of India Act, 1935
- (c) Gandhi-Irwin Pact
- (d) Poona Pact

17. Mahatma Gandhi was assassinated in the year:

- (a) 1947
- (b) 1948
- (c) 1949
- (d) 1952

18. Diamond mines in India are found in:

- (a) Madhya Pradesh
- (b) Maharashtra
- (c) Rajasthan
- (d) Bihar

19. The change of season is due to:

- (a) revolution of the earth

VOLLEYBALL

Commonwealth Tournament: Mr B.S. Adityan, President of the Volleyball Federation of India, announced at Patiala on December 2 that, subject to Government approval, India would participate in the Commonwealth Volleyball Tournament, to be held in London from September 13 to 20, 1981. An invitation for this, Mr Adityan said, had been received from the United Kingdom Volleyball Federation.

WRESTLING

Inter-University Championships: Haryana Agricultural University, Hissar, won the All-India Inter-University Wrestling Championships at Amravati on November 17. Their tally of 19 points included three gold medals. Collecting 13 points each, Delhi and M.D. University (Rohtak) got the second place.

HONOURS SHARFD

Women's National Sports Festival: With 15 points each, Maharashtra and Bengal became the joint winners of the sixth Women's National Sports Festival which concluded at Jaipur on November 24. Punjab (12 points) were a close second. Karnataka, with four gold, one silver and four bronze medals, topped in athletics. They were followed by Rajasthan (3-2-2) and Bengal (3-1-1).

ANSWERS

1. (c)	2. (c) & (d)
3. (b)	4. (a)
5. (d)	6. (d)
7. (b)	8. (a)
9. (c)	10. (b)
11. (c)	12. (b)
13. (a)	14. (a)
15. (a)	16. (a)
17. (b)	18. (a)
19. (b)	20. (a)

Current General Knowledge

AWARDS

16th Nehru Award for "International Understanding" for 1980

Mrs Barbara Ward, famous British economist, commentator and champion of the causes of the Third World, has been awarded the 1980 Jawaharlal Nehru Award for "International Understanding".

Mrs Ward, now in a London hospital for treatment of cancer, has been chosen for the award "because of her identification with the common cause of all nations through her writings and strengthening the ideals of international co-operation so dear to Jawaharlal Nehru."

Previous recipients: U Thant; Dr Martin Luther King (awarded posthumously); Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan; Yehudi Menuhin; Mother Teresa; President Kenneth Kaunda; President Tito; Andre Malraux; President Julius Nyerere; Dr Raul Prebisch; Dr Jonas Salk; Dr Giuseppe Tucci; Tulsi Mehar Shreshtha; Nichidarsu Fuji; Nelson Mandela.

Instituted by the Government of India in 1965, it is an award given annually to a person who makes an outstanding contribution to the promotion of international understanding, goodwill and friendship among the peoples of the world.

The award carries a sum of Rs. one lakh in cash (convertible into foreign currency) and a citation.

Borlaug Award for 1979

Dr Bishwajit Choudhury, a horticultural scientist, has been awarded the prestigious Borlaug Award for 1979 for his basic research on vegetables.

The Borlaug award was instituted by Coromandel Fertilisers and named after the celebrated wheat scientist and Nobel laureate, Dr Norman E. Borlaug for his great work in the advance of wheat revolution and increased production in various parts of the world.

Besides the citation, the award carries a cash prize of Rs. 10,000 and a gold medal with Dr Borlaug's face etched on it.

DEFENCE

MIG-25: is the high-streaking reconnaissance jet aircraft which the Soviet Union has reportedly agreed to supply to India.

MIG-25 is supposed to be the best in the world in its category, only marginally behind the American Lockheed SR-71 (Blackbird) which, in any case, cannot carry any missiles or armaments for self-defence.

With the NATO code-name of "Foxbat", the MIG-25, believed to be the ultimate in the MIG (Mikoyan) series, has a formidable power plant in two Tumansky engines. It has a service ceiling of 80,000 feet above mean sea level! This is beyond the reach of the present generation of surface-to-surface missiles. It is capable of streaking past at that height at 3·2 mach. No existing fighter-interceptor can catch it in a chase.

The aircraft has a broad fuselage, made up of two engines and large air intakes on its sides which give it a broad profile, quite different from that of the MIG-21 variants familiar in India.

The aircraft packs the latest avionics and its induction would mean a leap in the IAF's levels of technology. It carries most modern high-altitude photography equipment. Besides the usual radar that the fighter aircraft carry it also has provision for a radar that "looks" below to keep a tab on the flying activity at the usual fighter levels. The aircraft can also carry an advanced version of "atoll" air-to-air missiles for self-defence. The combat version can carry a variety of armament. It is a single-seat aircraft.

Initially a squadron of MIG-25 planes are to be supplied by the Soviet Union to India. Perhaps the aircraft would become operational only after a large force of IAF technicians and flying crew is trained in the Soviet Union.

PERSONS

Brum, Gabriella: 18-year-old beauty of West Germany (Miss Germany) who beat 66 other competi-

Awards

Defence

Persons

tors to become Miss World 1980 on November 13, was in the news when she renounced her Miss World 1980 title less than 24 hours later.

Choudhury, Dr Bishwajit: who has been awarded the prestigious Borlaug award for 1979 for outstanding service to agriculture, is a horticultural scientist. He had his early education in Bihar and later studied at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute in New Delhi. He is currently head of the division of vegetables and floriculture in the Institute.

Dr Choudhury has initiated resistance breeding in vegetable crops and has many contributions towards increasing vegetable production to his credit. He is fellow of the National Academy of Sciences and also the only horticulturist elected to the Indian National Science Academy.

Esquivel, Adolfo Poroz: is the human rights advocate of Argentina. He has been awarded the 1980 Nobel Peace Prize. At a solemn awarding ceremony on December 10, he was described as "a champion of non-violence in the struggle for human rights".

Hu Yaobang: He is the Secretary-General of the Communist Party of China and one of the men closest to the strongman of post-Mao China, the Communist Party Vice-Chairman, Mr Deng Xiaoping. He is likely to replace the Chinese Communist Party Chairman, Mr Hua Guofeng.

Jiang Qing: is Mao's 66-year-old widow, who recently entered the courtroom in Peking to stand trial as a member of the "Gang of Four".

After Mao's death she was promptly imprisoned as a member of the "Gang of Four" in 1976, and expelled from the C.C.P. in 1977. But it took four years (which period Jiang spent in prison) before Vice-Premier Mr Deng Xiaoping was ready to try her in public. In the court she does not conceal her contempt for the charges her enemies have recounted against her.

Kingsley, Ben: is a London-based actor who is playing the role of

Gandhi In the multi-million-dollar film on Mahatma Gandhi being produced by the British film director Sir Richard Attenborough as an Indo-British venture.

Obote, Milton: who became President of Uganda for a second time on December 15, following his Uganda People Congress Party's victory in general elections, is the man who led Uganda from independence in 1962 until 1971, when he was overthrown by Idi Amin.

Mr Obote (55) is the first modern African leader to regain power after being deposed. His appointment marked the return of constitutional government to Uganda after 10 years.

Santos, Kimberley: 19-year-old beauty "Miss Gaum" has been elected as the new Miss World 1980, succeeding 18-year-old Gabriella Brum (Miss Germany) who had relinquished her title less than 24 hours after being elected as Miss World 1980. Miss Santos was runner-up in the contest among 66 entries.

Taimur, Syeda Anwara: the 45-year-old Mrs Taimur was in the news having been installed as the Chief Minister of Assam on December 6 marking the end of the 360-day-old President's rule in the State. She is the State's first woman Chief Minister.

Ward, Mrs Barbara: on whom the 16th Jawaharlal Nehru Award for "International Understanding" for 1980, has been conferred, is a famous British economist commentator, journalist and champion of the causes of the Third World. She has been described as an "epitome of liberated intelligent and accomplished womanhood, dedicated to the task of making a world in which poverty, ignorance and aggression are less likely to flourish and a forerunner of future generations of women, who will provide the greatest reinforcement to the educated, humane and rational influences of mankind in times to come."

Mrs Barbara Ward started her career as a university lecturer in 1936 and became the Albert Schweitzer professor of international economic development at Columbia University in 1968.

She has exalted in journalism and was assistant editor of *The Economist* and an effective broadcaster on the BBC.

She is author of the book "India and the West" which she wrote in 1961.

Moral Education : Its Shape and Importance (Contd. from page 348)

money policy, safe deficit financing, credit control, the public distribution system must come to stay as a permanent feature and an instrument of change. It must be broad-based to cater to a bigger chunk of the population both in the rural and the urban areas and also provide all the essential consumption goods—foodgrains, sugar, pulses, edible oils, cloth etc. The Janata party did envisage such an extension of the public distribution system but its plan was "still born".

(e) Balance of payment: Averting the balance of payment crisis poses a big challenge. A step-up in exports to the third

world countries; intensification of oil exploration and production; import substitution for import liberalisation, to the extent possible; maximisation of incoming remittances from Indians abroad and efforts at dismantling the walls of protection raised by the rich nations are some of the measures which would help in tiding over the crisis.

Conclusion: Giving a boost to the stagnant economy is no easy task. It will take a national effort and iron will to buoy up the economy. Ad hocism and slip-shod measures will take us nowhere.

Sex and Social Responsibility

(Contd. from page 359)

municates love, emotion, tenderness, warmth and feeling. If responsibility is missing, it turns into animal force. The irresponsible person might say on seeing a beautiful woman: I will satisfy my lust on your beauty and youth. No matter what injury it causes you. Rape will be the result. The responsible person would say: You are beautiful hence vulnerable. I appreciate your beauty as well as my responsibility to you. Your vulnerability increases my responsibility.

Even for family planning, sex and responsibility are closely interconnected. Responsibility which means restraint puts brakes on irresponsible conduct leading to more offspring. Sex and responsibility are connected in many ways. Those who advocate that it is a matter of mere biological dialectics are headed for sexual and ethical chaos.

Responsibility in sex implies a subtle fusion of tender-

ness and sensuality. In a sexually sick person it is animalism minus tenderness. In other words responsibility is missing. In the sexually responsible person, the two have fused harmoniously. That is why he is responsible to the object of his love.

The sexually irresponsible person equates sex with love. The two are different. Ian Suttie says, "If the genitals are the organs of sex, the larynx is the organ of love." It is through the latter that the symbols by which we live, are given expression. Sexual intercourse with a prostitute is different from intercourse with wife on this account. The two are identical only on the genital plane. Any verbalisation is hypocritical. I-am-related-to-youness is missing. The entire thing is dehumanising, depersonalising. Sex without responsibility is a lie. It amounts to giving a message which is not meant.

VOCABULARY

(Meaning of selected words used in this issue)

absolutism: government, or theory of government, by a ruler without restriction; adherence to the doctrine of Absolute.

ameliorate: to make better; to improve.

antediluvian: very old-fashioned; primitive; existing or happening before Noah's Flood; resembling the state of things before the Flood.

antipodes: the exact opposite of a person or a thing.

baneful: destructive; pernicious; poisonous.

belie: to speak falsely of; to be false to.

chattel: any kind of property which is not freehold.

continuum: that which is continuous.

coroner: an officer whose chief duty is to enquire into the causes of accidental or suspicious deaths.

cramp: restraint; cramp-iron: a contrivance with a movable part that can be screwed tight so as to press things together.

crib: a pilfering, or the thing pilfered; a plagiarism.

depredate: to plunder or prey upon; to rob; to lay waste; to devour.

drudge: to do dull, laborious or very mean work.

expostulate: to remonstrate; to discuss; to claim.

fad: any unimportant belief or practice intemperately urged; a weak or transient hobby, or craze.

fanaticism: wild and excessive religious or other enthusiasm.

fiendish: like a *fiend*: a devil; one actuated by the most intense wickedness or hate; an addict: a person with an annoying habit or fad.

gouging (gouge): to force out, as the eye with the thumb; a chisel with a hallow blade for cutting grooves or holes; to scoop out, as with a gouge.

gregarious: growing together but not mated; associating in flocks and herds.

groat: a very small sum, *proverbially*.

harangue: a pompous or wordy address; a loud speech addressed to a multitude.

infraction: violation esp. of law; breach.

insular: standing or situated alone; narrow, prejudiced; belonging to an island; surrounded by water.

insurrection: a rising or revolt.

inter alia: among other things.

kowtow: to abase oneself; the Chinese ceremony of prostration; to perform that ceremony.

lop-sided: ill-balanced.

macrocosm: the great world; the whole universe—opp. to microcosm.

moot: to argue, dispute; to propose for discussion; to plead; *adj.* debatable.

obliterate: to blot out, so as not to be readily or clearly readable; to efface; to close up and do away with.

obscurantism: opposition to enquiry or reform.

obviate: to meet on the way; to prevent or dispose of in advance; to forestall.

ostensible: that may be shown; outwardly showing or professed.

platitudes: an empty remark made as if it were important.

plenum: a full assembly.

poach: to seek an unfair advantage.

prophylactic: guarding against disease.

rationale: underlying principle; a rational account; a theoretical explanation or solution.

relegate: to banish; to send away; to consign; to dismiss; to assign; to refer.

reminiscent: suggestive; mindful.

retributive: give in return for; to make requital.

sagacity (sagacious): keen in perception or thought; discerning and judicious; wise.

serf (serfdom): a person in modified slavery, esp. one attached to the soil.

subservience: to be subordinate; serving to promote subject; slavish.

susceptible: easily affected by emotion; impressionable.

tipple: to drink constantly in small quantities; to booze.

usurp: to take possession of by force without right; to encroach.

vis-a-vis: face-to-face with.

warp: to twist out of shape; to turn from the right course; to distort.

yawn: to gape with astonishment; to take a deep involuntary breath from drowsiness boredom, etc.

Appointments Etc.

Appointed, Elected

Milton Obote: Appointed President of Uganda following his Uganda People Congress Party's victory in the general election.

Homi J.H. Taleyarkhan: Appointed Governor of Sikkim in place of Mr B.B. Lal.

Syeda Anwara Taimur, Mrs: Appointed Chief Minister of Assam. (*The 45-year-old Mrs Taimur is the State's first woman Chief Minister.*)

Rishang Keishing: Appointed Chief Minister of Manipur.

Ravindra Tandon: High Commissioner of India to Zambia, has been concurrently accredited as Ambassador to Angola.

R.K. Dorendra Singh: Appointed India's Ambassador to Norway. (*He was formerly Chief Minister of Manipur.*)

G.G. Swell: Appointed India's Ambassador to Burma. (*He was India's Ambassador to Norway.*) He replaces Mr Amiya Nath Bose.

Additional Charge for 4 Central Ministers: Three Ministers of State and one Deputy Minister have been given additional charge of portfolios:

Mr Baleswar Ram and Mr R.V. Swaminathan, at present

Ministers of State in the Agriculture Ministry, will also be Ministers of State in the Ministry of Rural Reconstruction.

Mrs Sheila Kaul, at present Minister of State in the Ministry of Education will also be Minister of State in the Ministry of Social Welfare.

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Miss Kamla Kumari will also be Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Rural Reconstruction.

Distinguished Visitors

Gen Ne Win: President of Burma.

Prince Charles: Crown Prince of U.K.

Gen Suharto: President of Indonesia.

Leonid Brezhnev: President of the U.S.S.R.

Died

K. Hanumanthaiya: former Railway Minister and Chief Minister of the erstwhile state of Mysore. He was 74.

Ram Subhag Singh: former Union Railway Minister.

Welthy Fisher: eminent philanthropist who championed adult literacy among India's poor. She founded the Literacy House in Lucknow and established several other centres. She was 101.

EVENTS

NOVEMBER

15—Coup in the West African republic of Guinea Bissau.

—Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi inaugurates the national satellite telecommunications network at Sikandrabad in Bulandshahr district of U.P.

18—Farmers' movement grips Nasik district of Maharashtra.

23—Costs rise as 150 irrigation projects remain incomplete.

24—8 of the 12 seats in State Assembly by-elections won by Congress (I).

30—Bihar Chief Minister, Jagannath Mishra, confirms blinding of 31 criminals in Bhagalpur.

DECEMBER

1—India and Indonesia, co-founders of the non-aligned movement, affirm faith in world peace.

3—Edward Gierk, deposed Communist Party chief of Poland,

stripped of all posts in purge.

4—National Security Bill, seeking to replace an Ordinance promulgated some weeks ago, moved amidst shouts and walk-outs in Lok Sabha.

5—Francisco da Carneiro, Prime Minister of Portugal, killed in an air-crash.

6—An eight-member two-tier Congress (I) Ministry, headed by Mrs Syeda Anwara Taimur, installed in Assam.

8—Leonid Brezhnev, President of the U.S.S.R., visits India.

—Billa and Ranga, murderers of the teenaged Chopra children, to hang. The Supreme Court dismisses their appeal against death sentence.

9—John Lennon, founder of the legendary Beatles Pop group, shot dead by a lone gunman.

10—Leonid Brezhnev moots 5-point plan for Ocean, Gulf peace.

11—Iンドo-Soviet joint declaration avoids mention of Afghanistan.

12—Pakistan importing nuclear arms equipment, says External Affairs Minister, Narasimha Rao.

—Atal Behari Vajpayee re-elected President of BJP (Bharatiya Janata Party).

13—Nehru Award for "International Understanding" conferred on Mrs Barbara Ward, famous British economist, journalist and champion of the causes of the Third World.

—Milton Obote, former President of Uganda, and his Uganda People's Congress win Uganda's general elections.

—Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew's People's Action Party (P.A.P.) return to power in Singapore.

—Soviet Union agrees to sell MiG-25 planes to India.

14—Tighter and harsher penal provisions proposed to be incorporated in the Essential Commodities Act.

15—Russia agrees to give Rs. 520-crore Aid Package to India.

—Nepal to have elections; major amendments to Constitution.

16—India's Oil Bill to go up by Rs. 500 crores; OPEC announces 10% increase in prices.

—Lok Sabha passes National Security Bill providing for preventive detention.

FULL YEAR REVIEW

ROUND-UP OF NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Round-up 1980—Mrs Gandhi Back in Power—Changes in Constitution—Stand on Presidential System—Land Ceiling Laws—Death Penalty to Continue—India's Sixth Plan—C'wealth Regional Summit—Central Budget, 1980-81—Railway Budget—Cease-Fire in Mizoram—India's Stand on N. Safeguards—Reorganisation of AIR and TV—Cinemas in Concurrent List—Plan for Nuclear Energy—Big Increase in Bank Profits—Unemployment Soars to 8 Million—Birth of New Party—Defence Services Reorganisation—Indo-Bangladesh Discord—India Recognises Kampuchea—Turmoil in Assam.

Round-up 1980

Marking as it did a dramatic switch in power which brought Mrs Indira Gandhi back to the prestigious position she held before the 1977 general election, and also the emergence of several anti-national trends which posed seemingly intractable problems for the Government, the year 1980 was more eventful than many years in the recent past. Her return to the Prime Minister's "gaddi" was largely the result of the disappointing performance of the Janata-Lok Dal Governments, followed by the crashing of the opposition parties like a house of cards.

But during the very first year of power after Mrs Gandhi's resurrection the country witnessed dismal phenomena which she failed to control despite all the forces at her command and the repeated declarations that subversive elements will not be allowed to hold the country to ransom. First, there was the Assam agitation, spear-headed by students' organisa-

tions and supported by all sections of the State's people, including Government employees, on the issue of foreigners. It is more than a year since normal administration ceased in that State and student leaders virtually dictated terms for many months. Even at the end of the year the Assam crisis seemed nowhere near solution. There was police firing on irate mobs in November. Earlier, the Government stood by, almost as a helpless spectator even as mass picketing of vital oil and other installations was conducted. The burden of the Assamese grievances was the outcome of continued economic neglect.

The turmoil verging on civil war also affected the other north-eastern States, Manipur, Tripura and Mizoram. There was simmering discontent in the Jharkhand area. There was an upheaval in Maharashtra where thousands of farmers disrupted the administration and carried on with a vengeance their agitation for remunerative

prices. There were similar agitations in other States, U.P., Gujarat, Karnataka and Punjab, all reflecting a breakdown of law and order for some time. There was little sign during the year of the "Government that works". In fact, continued indecision, dithering and sitting on the fence were the notable qualities of the Central administration even as there were disturbances in several regions.

Perhaps the most damaging indictment of the Central Government came through the communal carnage, the rioting in sensitive centres such as Moradabad, Aligarh, Ahmedabad and Jamshedpur. There were more communal disturbances in 1980 than in any corresponding period earlier. It was amazing to find that riots, arson, stabbings occurred and recurred in the same places in U.P. with a growing sense of insecurity among the minorities. The police and some political elements were believed to be involved in the communal rioting.

On the economic front the failures of the Government led by Mrs Gandhi were equally notable. Prices rose with a vengeance, the attempt to shift the blame to the Janata legacy having ceased to carry conviction after some time. The continuing shortages and the unprecedented prices of sugar, for instance, assumed scandalous dimensions, with reports of corruption and connivance at many levels of the administration. The industrial stagnation which started during the Janata regime continued more or less with the same intensity. The promised reliefs and improvements in the economic situation and in respect of the supply of essential commodities never came. The profiteers and black-marketeers never had it so good; it seemed that there was no check on them. They all had a merry time, of course at the cost of the masses who were exploited both ways. There was a fall in the wholesale price index towards the close of the year but this was not reflected in the retail markets, with the result that the economic hardships of the people continued. The oil crisis and the repeated hikes in petrol and diesel prices caused further hardships, and travel became costlier every few months.

Thus the internal situation remained disturbed and wholly unsatisfactory, the people getting disillusioned with Mrs Gandhi and her Government. Sanjay Gandhi's sudden death in an air crash was a shock she could hardly bear; all her attempts to groom the assertive young man as her successor to the highest office thus came to nought. At times she seemed to have lost her will to govern and to make the country stable and strong as she had promised.

In India's international relations there was no outstanding improvement, and the country's

image abroad did not become brighter on any account. There were the same ups and downs in the relations with Pakistan, the occasional exchanges of visit and expressions of mutual goodwill being followed by discordant noises from Islamabad, including the harping on the old tunes on Kashmir. The same was true of relations with China. For many months during the first half of the year the Afghanistan crisis created fresh tensions. India's position was delicate since she could not afford to criticise the Soviet Union openly for the blatant aggression in Kabul, but it managed to emerge unscathed and supported the persistent international demand for vacating the aggression and withdrawal of Russian troops from Afghan soil. But the Russian pre-condition that all outside interference in Afghan affairs must stop could not be fulfilled. So the deadlock continued.

In the sphere of non-alignment also the country did not make a mark, though for some weeks the role of such countries in bringing about peace between Iran and Iraq, which are at war, was much talked about. The initiative and the mediation attempts proved abortive, and the self-appointed mediators quietly withdrew into their shells as the hostilities continued.

With Bangladesh also there were some tensions following India's disinclination to sacrifice any longer her national interests in Farakka and the Ganga waters. Bangladesh, fed on the 1977 climbdown by the Janata Government, has been seeking more and more concessions, regardless of the damage to the Calcutta port because of the paucity of Ganga waters, and also seeking to bring in Nepal as a party to the negotiations for settling the issue. But India has rightly declined to accept the Dacca

move for internationalising the bilateral dispute.

Similarly with Nepal there was more or less a stalemate, the occasional exchanges of goodwill visits and messages notwithstanding. The outstanding issues of mutual trade and commerce remain unresolved. There has, however, been no notable worsening of relations. The trade treaty has yet to be renegotiated.

With the Soviet Union the friendly relations continue, and India gets both moral and material support from that country. Meanwhile attempts are being made to establish contacts with the new U.S. regime which will shortly be headed by Mr Ronald Reagan.

Mrs Gandhi Back in Power

In the general election held early in January, 1980, the Congress (I) scored a great and memorable victory, getting 351 seats of the 525 for which contests were held, reducing all opposition groups to insignificance. The defeat of the Janata Party was most humiliating, but for its dismal fate it had to blame itself. The discord among its leaders and the total non-performance of the Government it formed disillusioned the masses who deservedly punished the once popular party.

The final party position in the Lok Sabha after the poll was: Total seats 542; Congress (I) 351; Lok Dal 41; Janata 31; Congress (U) 13; CPI 11; CPI(M) 35; National Conference (J & K) 3; Muslim League 3; Akali Dal 1; DMK 16; A.I.A.D.M.K. 2; Others 12; Independents 6. In June the Congress (I) also won the Mandi (H.P.) seat.

The election recorded a turnout of 55.50 per cent, which was higher than the percentages of poll in all but two of the previous

elections. Giving the Congress (I) share as 42·58 per cent of the poll, the voters chose a Government on a minority vote, as in all the past six general elections

An analysis of the votes indicates that the Congress (I) received 84 million of the total votes; 37 million votes went for the Janata and roughly half of that number for the Lok Dal-Janata (S). The Congress (U), with a little over 10 million votes, was way behind. This means that Mrs Gandhi's Government is in effect a "minority" Government since it does not have the support of about 57 per cent of the voters (or most of them) who either voted for others or abstained. The number of abstainers (150 million) was the highest in that election; in 1977 the corresponding number was 123 million; in 1971 it was 119 million and in 1967 it was 95 million.

The unfair aspect of the poll result is evident from the fact that while the Congress (I) with 84 million votes (43%) secured 351 seats, the Janata, the Lok Dal and Congress (U), together polling 65 million votes (about 34 per cent), got only 85 seats. The only two parties which improved upon their 1977 performance are the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) and the CPI(M).

Congress (I) Triumph in States: Mrs Gandhi's victory in the elections held to nine State Assemblies (which had been dissolved in April) at the end of May, 1980, was no less impressive and conclusive than the Lok Sabha poll. The party swept away the Opposition almost completely in seven of the nine States—U.P., Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Bihar, Rajasthan, Gujarat—and scored a working majority in the Punjab. The Opposition groups, torn by groupism, were nowhere in the picture. Mrs Gandhi thus emerged as a strong, all-

powerful leader, even more powerful than before.

The only setback to the Congress (I) was in Tamil Nadu where the party's alliance with the D.M.K. under Mr Karunanidhi's leadership, failed to break the hold of the A.I.A.-D.M.K. led by the film-star Chief Minister. The A.I.A.-D.M.K. staged a fine recovery. The turn-out of voters was impressive, especially in Tamil Nadu and Punjab. The discord among the Opposition parties and the consequent multiple divisions and the splitting of votes (caused also by the plethora of candidates), coupled with the Janata's ruined image, facilitated the Congress (I) victory.

Factors like the soaring prices, which the Opposition used as the main issue, failed to detract from the Congress (I) support in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Gujarat, and also in Punjab, Orissa and Bihar.

Changes in Constitution

The Government under Mrs Indira Gandhi's leadership does not believe in the theory of the "basic structure" of the Constitution and does not accept the proposition that there are constraints on the constituent power of Parliament to amend the Constitution.

This was made clear on October 1 by Union Law Minister Shiv Shankar at a meeting of the Consultative Committee of Parliament attached to his Ministry. The Minister rejected a suggestion by a Janata member that the Constitution should not be amended in such a manner as to affect the "basic structure", which included supremacy of the Constitution, the republican form of government, separation of powers between the executive and the judiciary, its federal character and the dignity and freedom of the individual.

While it is not the intention of the Government to effect changes which would do away with the secular and democratic character of the Constitution, it does not accept the proposition that there are restraints on the constituent power to amend the Constitution.

A note circulated to M.P.s traced the entire controversy about the basic features, beginning from the Supreme Court's judgement in the Kesavananda Bharati case in 1974. It says that six out of seven Judges felt that there were inherent and implied limitations on the amending power. Mr Justice H.R. Khanna, while not accepting this theory, nevertheless rules that the expression "amendment" could not mean alteration of the basic structure or framework of the Constitution. All the seven Judges gave illustrations of what they considered to be the basic structure.

In a subsequent decision of the Supreme Court (in the Mrs Gandhi *versus* Raj Narain case) a five-member bench accepted the verdict in the Kesavananda Bharati case but once again failed to give an exact definition of the "basic structure and framework". To get over the difficulties Article 368 was amended through the 42nd Amendment in 1976.

The Government's note pointed out that how on May 9, 1980, the Supreme Court in the Minerva Mills case struck down section 55 on the ground that it was beyond the amending power of Parliament and was void since it removed all limitations on the power of Parliament to amend the Constitution.

The amendment of Article 31-C of the Constitution, the court said, damaged the essential features of the Constitution and

destroyed its basic structure. But in the present Government's view "the basic feature" is an extraneous consideration that has been brought into the judgement and the Government did not believe in the theory of basic structure.

Stand on Presidential System

In an apparent attempt to appear neutral regarding the form of government, Mrs Gandhi is reported to have clarified on November 6 that she has no marked preference for the Presidential form of government as against the Westminster system which has been in vogue in this country. According to highly placed sources, any inference that she favoured the Presidential system was unwarranted.

In her address to the lawyers' conference Mrs Gandhi had referred to the troubles of the U.S. Presidential system, marked by constant wranglings between the Head of State and the Congress. While arguing that those under the Presidential system also claimed to be democracies, she had spoken of the numerous letters she was getting from those countries inquiring if the Indian system worked better.

Actually the academic debate within the Congress as to the relative merits of the parliamentary and the Presidential form of government has been going on for some years. Few people can deny that even under the present arrangement the Prime Minister enjoys enormous powers, particularly a personality like Mrs Gandhi.

Land Ceiling Laws

On May 9 the Supreme Court also upheld the validity of the Land Ceiling Acts of the States which had enacted measures to implement land reforms. A Constitution Bench dismissed

all writ petitions and review petitions relating to the validity of the Agricultural Land Ceiling (lowering of the ceiling) Acts enacted by the States of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh and Haryana.

Death Penalty to Continue

The Supreme Court on May 9 gave an important verdict to the effect that the death penalty under Section 302 of the Indian Penal Code is Constitutionally valid and is not an "unreasonably cruel or unusual punishment".

This verdict set at rest, for the present, the heated and prolonged controversy over the death sentence. The extreme punishment for murder has been abolished by some countries but retained by others. By a four to one majority verdict, the court also ruled that the death penalty for an offence of murder or of the sentencing procedure under Section 354(3) of the Cr.P.C. 1973, also does not violate Articles 14, 19 and 21 or the basic structure of the Constitution.

The majority verdict held that the procedure contemplated by Article 21 for depriving a person of his life or personal liberty is "just right and fair and not arbitrary, fanciful or oppressive". It also upheld the implication in Article 21 that the Founding Fathers of the Constitution recognised the right of the State to deprive a person of his life or personal liberty under the procedure.

India's Sixth Plan

The Sixth Plan framework, presented to the National Development Council late in August, envisages a massive overall expenditure of Rs. 1,56,000 crores, including Rs. 90,000 crores for the public sector. The latter figure makes a hefty increase of Rs. 19,000 crores (27 per cent

more) compared to the 1978-83 Plan drawn up by the Janata Government and abandoned unceremoniously by the present Congress (I) Government. The increase in Plan outlay is mostly due to the inflation which is increasing, the figure for the current financial year being 20 per cent. The growth rate envisaged is 5.3 per cent.

The losses in the public sector continue. Taken together, irrigation works, State Electricity Boards and State Road Transport Undertakings incurred a loss of Rs. 1400 crores in a single year.

According to the Plan, the resource mobilisation by the Centre and the States will have to be Rs. 19,000 crores over the Plan period, the shares being Rs. 13,000 crores for the Centre and Rs. 6,000 crores for the States. The States would have to raise Rs. 2,500 crores as additional revenue in the Plan period. The uncovered gap in the Plan is Rs. 4,000 crores which may increase further by the end of the Plan period.

In her address to the National Development Council, the Prime Minister said the envisaged growth rate was attainable, indeed inescapable to ensure the desired pace of development. But the crux of the problem was mobilisation of resources. Mrs Gandhi would have liked a larger effort than envisaged, but "we have to be hard-hearted, hard-headed and practical".

A large part of the investment in the Sixth Plan, such as for power, transport and fertiliser, will bear fruit in the Seventh Plan. Fiscal discipline has to be restored and wasteful expenditure must be controlled. "We cannot let public sector enterprises be run inefficiently and accumulate losses."

Plan targets were one of the first casualties of the inflation.

The Union Finance Minister outlined the magnitude of the resource mobilisation effort involved in order to finance the public sector in a non-inflationary manner. Given determination and political will, the measures outlined in the Plan frame were described as "within the realm of feasibility".

The situation of resource surplus that characterised the economy from 1975-76 was giving way to one of "situation scarcity". The country was once again likely to be faced with foreign exchange constraint. The adverse impact of the rising oil prices had led to a record trade deficit in 1979-80, and payments for oil and petroleum products alone amounted to Rs. 3,200 crores last year. These are likely to be close to Rs. 5,000 crores in the current year.

The crucial importance of promoting efficiency in the use of resources and of improving productivity in all spheres of the economy has for the first time been defined as one of the objectives of the Plan.

C'wealth Regional Summit

Dominated as it was by small entities, often described as "mere specks on the wide Asian and Pacific Horizon", the Commonwealth Heads of Government Regional conference (CHOGRM-II), held in Delhi from September 4 to 8 and attended by 16 countries, ensured some goodwill and opened up prospects of co-operation in the economic sphere. The long communique issued after the talks avoided all controversial issues and confined itself to generalisations without treading on any participant's toes. Mrs Gandhi herself admitted that differences in perception over the causes of the crises in Afghanistan and Kampuchea persisted.

She and the Commonwealth Secretary-General, Mr S.S. Ram-

phal, gave the impression that the quest among the CHOGRM participants was for "areas of agreement" and that this had manifested itself in the communique with the call for the withdrawal of "foreign forces" from Kampuchea and a peaceful political settlement in Afghanistan.

Broadly the communique set out the position of the Commonwealth Heads of Government on the global and regional political trends. There had been great deterioration in the overall situation but differences should be resolved. In relation to Afghanistan it called for de-escalation of tensions and warned that in the absence of a political settlement "big-power" confrontation would be unavoidable. It expressed full support for the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-aligned status of Afghanistan.

On Kampuchea it sought a comprehensive political solution to the problem which would ensure the sovereignty, independence and neutrality of Kampuchea.

Central Budget, 1980-81

The Union Budget, presented on June 18, showed an imaginative approach and provided some relief to the over-taxed masses; there was relief for the common man in several taxes and duties. The harshness of the Charan Singh Budget was reversed and an attempt was made to check inflation.

The new Budget marked a refreshing fiscal policy designed to revive the economy, encourage savings and production in both small and big sectors; relieve distress, especially among the poor and middle classes, by offering concessions in many areas. The wealth tax exemption was raised to Rs. 1.5 lakh. Among the major concessions

were the withdrawal of wealth tax on farms (except on plantations), concessions to companies to encourage industry, the raising of the income-tax exemption limit from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 12,000 annually, the lowering of the maximum rate of personal taxation from 72 per cent to the pre-1977 level of 66 per cent; TV sets and radios to cost less because of duty concession or withdrawal of duty. The total quantum of taxes (against Rs. 685 crores in 1979-80) would be Rs. 282 crores in 1980-81. The notable decrease in the quantum of deficit financing from about Rs. 2700 crores in 1979-80 to Rs. 1417 crores this time was expected to check the inflationary spiral.

To meet the mounting Government expenditure certain additional levies were imposed, though the impact of the higher rates will be mostly on the relatively better off classes—higher charges for telephones, higher duty on cigarettes and costlier postal envelopes.

The new Budget figures are (in crores): Revenue receipts Rs. 12,356; Revenue disbursements Rs. 13,310; Capital receipts Rs. 7,694; Capital disbursements Rs. 8,157; Total receipts: Rs. 20,050; Total disbursements Rs. 21,467.

Railway Budget

As a result of the Railway Budget, presented on June 16, rail travel and rail freight cost more. There was a 20 per cent increase in passenger fares on first class, ACC and two-tier sleepers and 12.5 per cent increase for ACC chair cars and for all mail and express trains; 10 per cent fare increase for Class-I passengers in ordinary trains; short distance travellers pay 5 per cent more fare, monthly and quarterly season tickets will cost 15 per cent more. There was a surcharge on freight but essential commodities are

exempted from the higher charges.

Gross traffic receipt in 1980-81 were put at Rs. 2,740 crores; ordinary working expenses at Rs. 2,111 crores; Total working expenses at Rs. 2,348 crores; surplus Rs. 42.71 crores (after the freight hike).

Cease-Fire in Mizoram

After many months of turmoil and fighting, which caused a heavy loss of life and property, a cease-fire was declared by the Mizo National Front (M.N.F.) in Mizoram on August 1. The security forces suspended their operations against the insurgents in the disturbed Union Territory in pursuance of the accord reached between the Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, and the M.N.F. chief, Mr Laldenga.

Mr Laldenga directed his supporters in the arms wing of the underground to stop all rebel activities, including fresh recruitment and collection of taxes, and revocation of the "quit Mizoram" order for non-Mizos. The Government reciprocated the gesture by recalling the troops to their parent stations.

However, the security forces have been asked to maintain strict vigil along the international border with Burma and Bangladesh to prevent illegal traffic across the border and maintain law and order in the Union Territory. With the implementation of the Indira Gandhi-Laldenga accord, the way has been paved for resumption of a fresh dialogue to resolve the Mizo tangle.

India's Stand on N. Safeguards

India on November 8 reiterated her familiar stand on the "full-scope nuclear safeguards" on which the Big Powers have

been insisting. It provided the lone voice of dissent to a suggestion to place world nuclear installations under the control of the International Atomic Energy Agency (I.A.E.A.) as a measure to eliminate the risk of nuclear fuel diversion for military use.

In a U.N. General Assembly debate on a resolution calling for an international conference in 1983 to promote the use of nuclear energy, particularly in the developing countries, the Indian delegate, Mr N.G. Ranga, reiterated the traditional Indian stand and said the new I.A.E.A. guidelines for technical assistance were "restrictive and preferential". They are designed to promote the nuclear goals of certain nations under the pretext of preventing nuclear development for military purposes.

Reorganisation of AIR and TV

Important structural changes in All India Radio and Doordarshan (TV) are envisaged by the Government of India which is apparently dissatisfied with the current performance of the two media. Perhaps the Government wants to ensure more official propaganda. It proposes to appoint a high-level committee to suggest structural changes in All India Radio and Doordarshan to bring about "greater professionalism" in the two organisations and make them an effective tool for national development.

Mr Vasant Sathe, Information and Broadcasting Minister, disclosed on September 5 that the Government was in the midst of separating All India Radio and Doordarshan to provide for rapid growth of the two media. Steps were also afoot to give them more functional freedom to achieve the basic objective of broadcasting i.e., serving the people with better and more attractive programmes.

Outlining the role of All India Radio in a democratic set-up, the Minister referred to the basic objective of any Government—to serve the people, to help the people to help themselves, and take the country forward. The official media must help and not copy values which would be wrong in a developing country. The official media, therefore, had an obligation to provide information and to build up motivation in support of national programmes and policies.

Grievances of the people in a situation of shortages and bottlenecks should be projected in a positive and constructive way.

Cinemas in Concurrent List

Most of the States agreed on November 5 to the inclusion of cinemas in the Concurrent List of the Constitution. Until now, the subject has been in the State List. Tamil Nadu, however, opposed the proposal at the Information Ministers' Conference in Delhi because of the State's great contribution to the film industry. West Bengal also did not agree with the proposal and wanted time to consider it.

The actual transfer of cinemas to the Concurrent List would take some time and film interests would also be consulted. The change would enable the Centre to introduce uniform legislation regarding distribution, processing laboratories and promotion of regional films.

An official spokesman claimed that there was unanimity of views on the other recommendations of the Working Group which were expected to go a long way in improvement of the cinema, both as an industry and as an art form. Among the accepted recommendations was inclusion of film appreciation

courses in school and college syllabi.

Plan for Nuclear Energy

Ambitious plans have been drawn up by the Government of India for generating more nuclear power to partially offset the substantial shortage in this field. The country is expected to achieve nuclear power generation capacity of 860 mw by 1980-81, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi disclosed in the Lok Sabha on August 6.

The target contemplated by the Atomic Energy Commission envisages a nuclear power generation capacity of 8,000 mw by 1980-81. But a task force of the Department of Atomic Energy in 1973 had recommended that the nuclear power generation capacity by that year be fixed at 1240 mw, considering the difficulties encountered in achieving the desired results.

The reasons given by Mrs Gandhi for non-fulfilment of the targets are the inability of the industrial infrastructure to cope with any faster programme, inadequacy of the transportation system for handling large and heavy pieces of equipment, the need to redesign the reactor units to make them more efficient and economical, and to adapt them to suit the capabilities of the Indian manufacturers.

The embargo imposed by certain countries on the supply of nuclear equipment to India and difficulties encountered in indigenisation of manufacture and fabrication of certain equipment are the other reasons stated for the non-fulfilment of the target.

Big Increase in Bank Profits

Despite the restrictions on their incomes and certain statutory obligations, the commercial banks in the country increased

their profits by 100 per cent—from Rs. 4 crores to Rs. 8 crores in 1979. The profits of 14 nationalised banks went up by 20·1 per cent. The State Bank of India group recorded a rise of 15·2 per cent; the other scheduled commercial banks' profits shot up by 63·9 per cent and of foreign banks by 35·3 per cent.

All this when the "resources position of the banking system was tight"; there was a sharp decline in the rate of growth of deposits of scheduled commercial banks and there was a lower expansion of total bank credit.

New Policy for Banks: Increased lending for the priority sectors and active bank support for implementing the Government of India's 20-Point Programme are to govern the commercial banks' policy during 1980-85. According to the first decision, the public sector banks (which today account for about 95 per cent of India's commercial banking) should strive to raise the proportion of their advances to the priority sectors from the present 33-1/3 per cent to 40 per cent of the total by 1985. The present share of the priority sectors is only 31·2 per cent.

The second decision envisages that the banks should actively provide financial support for the implementation of the 20-Point Programme which aims at improving the lot of the weaker sections of the population.

Unemployment Soars to 8 Million

Despite the Five-Year Plans and a series of other projects for the country's economic development and for generation of more job opportunities, unemployment in the country is increasing fast. At the end of 1979 the number of educated unemployed had risen to 7·3 million and the latest figure is in

the neighbourhood of 8 million, according to the "live registers" of Employment Exchanges. The poor performance of the economy during 1979 had contributed to the soaring unemployment.

The "daily status" unemployment in the age group 15-59 was 16·8 million in 1977-78, according to the 32nd round of the National Sample Survey. The Ministry's estimate is based on the level which, some Ministry sources admit, "may well be higher now than in 1977-78" in view of the poor performance of the economy in 1979-80.

Birth of New Party

The ill-fated Janata Party, formed with high hopes by the late Mr Jayaprakash Narayan and other leaders early in 1977, split on April 6, 1980, for the third time in three years. The split, brought about by the dual membership issue (involving the RSS membership) dashed all hopes of an orderly and viable party system with a credible opposition to the Congress (I).

Following the split, a new party, the Bharatiya Janaata Party (BJP) was born, headed by former External Affairs Minister, Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee. The party mainly consists of the former Jana Sangh members and some non-Jana Sangh leaders. It has accepted Mr Jayaprakash Narayan's philosophy of "total revolution" and has sought co-operation from all sections of the population.

Defence Services Reorganisation

In a major and long overdue overhaul of the top rank structure in the armed forces announced on October 7, the Government of India created a number of new positions of Lieutenant-Generals, Air Marshals, Vice-Admirals and other senior ranks.

The step was taken to avoid stagnation and open up avenues of promotions in the top echelons of the Army, Navy and the Air Force. With this restructuring, the cadre review, as recommended by the three Service Chiefs at various levels in the armed forces, was completed.

The Army will have 11 more Lieut-Generals, 46 additional Major-Generals and about 100 more Brigadiers. The Air Force will have four new Air Marshals, 16 additional Air Vice-Marshals, while the Navy will have three Additional Vice-Admirals and seven more Rear-Admirals.

With this the Army will have a total of 37 Lieutenant-Generals, and about 150 Major-Generals, while the number of Brigadiers would be almost doubled. The number of Air Marshals in the Air Force will rise from the present 10 to 14 and of Naval Vice-Admirals from six to nine.

The new promotions will take effect in the next three years in a phased manner. The Government has not accepted the recommendations of the Service Chiefs for the creation of six more full Generals, three more Admirals and three more Air Chief Marshals. The Government is of the view that in the interest of better co-ordination and command purposes, it was desirable to have only one person at the head of each of the three services.

New Weapons for India

India already has several ordnance and small arms factories. The country is on the threshold of developing its own sophisticated weaponry system for increasing the defence and strike capabilities of its defence forces.

The weapons systems are based on the research work carried out during the last few years in the laboratories of the

defence research and development organisation of the Ministry of Defence. The systems being developed would be able to meet the requirements of the Army, Navy and the Air Force for the next 10 to 20 years. The Ministry is working on an Indian-designed aircraft around an engine developed in the country itself.

The prototype of a new tank developed by the defence research and development wing, keeping in view the requirements of the 1990s and incorporating the latest technology, is expected to be ready towards the end of 1981.

In the field of missile technology, Indian scientists are working on the development of the third-generation missile which would reduce the radar detection to the minimum and would be of multi-purpose usage. Defence sources said that India had made creditable progress in converting a helicopter into a "flying tank". In the field of torpedo systems, Indian scientists have made further improvements in the installation of bombing devices.

Indo-Bangladesh Discord

In recent months the relations between India and Bangladesh have not been as cordial as they were in the period immediately following the liberation of that country from the Pakistan yoke. India has continued her friendly approach, but Dacca has apparently been trying to extort yet more concessions from this country, especially in respect of the Ganga waters and the Farakka Barrage.

Many rounds of Farakka talks and meetings of India-Bangladesh River Waters Commission, held alternately in Dacca and Delhi during 1980, proved mostly futile. Bangladesh seems determined to internationalise the issue and get a

larger share of the Ganga water even though it cannot be unaware that the depleted flow in the river during the lean season leaves only 10,000 cusecs for the Hoogley and the Calcutta-Haldia ports which are consequently decaying.

India has put up a sound proposal for a Brahmaputra-Ganga Canal by which the supply in the Ganga would be augmented and both countries would stand to gain. Bangladesh contends, however, that it would have to lose about 20,000 acres for the canal layout in its territory, while forgetting that India would have to lose over 2 lakh acres. Besides, Bangladesh has been insisting on the inclusion of Nepal in the talks, though the problem is bilateral and should be tackled as such.

Union Irrigation Minister Kedar Pandey explained early in November that the Bangladesh proposal for augmenting the dry season flow of the Ganga by constructing storages in Nepal on the river's tributaries "has no legs to stand upon". India had made it clear that it was not possible to include Nepal in the agreement which was bilateral in character.

The crux of the problem was the supply of 40,000 cusecs of water to the inland port of Calcutta to keep it operational. At present, Calcutta is not getting enough water during the dry season. Mr Pandey said the 1977 agreement, which would end in two years from now, was an interim agreement and could be replaced by a long-term one.

India Recognises Kampuchea

After about 10 months' delay and risking the displeasure of China, the Government of India announced on July 7 its decision to recognise President Heng Samrin's Government in

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ROUND-UP OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Round-up 1980—Reagan New U.S. President—Iraq-Iran War—U.S. to Supply Arms to Gulf—End of White Supremacy in Africa—U.N. Boycott of S. Africa—U.N. Decade for Water—Brandt Commission Report—Radical Reforms in Canada—Schmidt Back to Power—Political Shake-up in China—Accord on Law of Sea—Russia Warns Poland—Syria-Libya Merger—Pakistan's Nuclear Bomb—Martial Law in Pak—Russian Hold on Afghans—Russia-Syria Treaty—Record Arms Expenditure—N. Powers' Tactics—Indian Ocean Race.

Round-up 1980

The dismal events of 1980 go to confirm the pessimists' assessment and forebodings that mankind is not destined to live in peace and amity; somehow and somewhere, good cause or bad, or even no worthwhile cause at all, there will be a war in some part of the world. In 1979 the conflict was in the Far East when China invaded Kampuchea to teach Vietnam "a lesson". In September, 1980, Iraq suddenly invaded Iran and was evidently out to teach that country "a lesson" by occupying a part of its territory and smashing its oil resources—the main cause of its prosperity.

Iraq continues to be on Iranian soil, but the world has lost interest in the hostilities because the intensity is gone, and there is only occasional almost negligible fighting. The widespread repercussions which were initially feared have not materialised; the world's oil economy remains largely undisturbed, though it is still perilous by any standard. What the plight of non-oil-producing countries will be if the oil resources of both Iran and Iraq suffer permanent damage is hard to say. Such irrevocable damage will affect India too.

The fighting in Afghanistan between the angry, orthodox rebels and the Soviet forces has also calmed down, and the

Russians are in control of Kabul, evidently for good. Thus the Soviet Union has established a strong foothold in a vital region, even as the Americans have strengthened their positions in the Middle East, especially in Egypt which is now very much an American ally, almost a protege. In the Indian Ocean the U.S.A. has further reinforced its prestigious base Diego Garcia, but true to the check-counter-check strategy the Soviet Union has also strengthened its positions in the region and sent more ships to patrol the Ocean.

The East has been quiet, the Chinese choosing to play their role in low key. Besides, China has lately been engrossed in setting its own house in order, changing the order of its top leadership and modifying certain rights of the people to suit the winds of change under the garb of "liberalisation and modernisation".

The world balance of power has meanwhile undergone yet another change. The U.S.-Soviet cordiality almost faded away during 1980, especially after the Soviets' Afghanistan adventure; the spirit of detente seems to have gone with the wind. In 1980 the Soviet leaders started denouncing President Carter for introducing politics into sports by boycotting the Moscow Olympics. The boy-

cott of the Games announced by pro-U.S. countries ruined the pitch for international amity. The principal beneficiary of the U.S.-Soviet discord was China, the rival Communist giant of the East, which has taken good care to establish closer contacts with the West, to benefit from Western technology and enlarge trade opportunities. Consequently, the world witnesses a growing Washington-Peking (Beijing) axis, with Moscow getting isolated but not feeling jittery at all on that ground.

The year 1980 also saw the overall arms expenditure reaching record figures despite the loud professions of peace and declarations designed to assure the weaker nations that they have nothing to fear. The investment in armaments has already reached the fantastic figure of 600 billion dollars and the trends are indeed ominous. In fact, the irony is that as the months pass the stress on aid to the needy countries of the Third World is lessening even as assistance through arms and lethal weapons to proteges is rapidly increasing. Disarmament talks have become a greater farce than even before in this process.

The farce being perpetuated by the world's major nuclear Powers is no less frightening in extent and impact. A U.N. study released during the past

year exposes the duplicity indulged in by these Powers. While seeking (outwardly) to check the proliferation of nuclear weapons around the world, these Powers have themselves spared no pains to develop and enlarge their own nuclear arsenals. Their actual policies do not augur well for the growth of mutual confidence in the international community.

Apart from the fact that several countries have already developed or acquired the nuclear capability and the requisite technology to manufacture nuclear weapons, there are ambitious nations like Pakistan the nuclear designs of which were exposed in a TV programme put out by a station in the U.S.A. about the middle of November, 1980. It is now an open secret that Pakistan took the vital decision to go in for nuclear weapons as early as 1972; so the explanation that Pakistan seriously started acquiring nuclear knowhow only after India had conducted an explosion in Pokharan in May, 1974, was false. Gen Zia, like Mr Bhutto and his predecessors, talks of his intention to live in peace with India but pursues nuclear devices with the same grim determination. This means that an armed conflict on the Indian sub-continent cannot be ruled out; both sides must have genuine intentions for peace and not talk with tongue in cheek, as Gen Zia has been doing.

What becomes of Human Rights amidst such duplicity and ceaseless resort to falsehood? The farce that is being enacted at Madrid where 35 nations have met in November-December, 1980, to review the Helsinki Declaration of 1975, is proof enough of the colossal human tragedy. Military interventions by the Russians and similar actions by the U.S.A. elsewhere

have made mincemeat of human rights.

Reagan New U.S. President

Poor performance, economic setbacks, the growing unemployment and the lack of any spectacular success in foreign relations have cost Mr Jimmy Carter the American Presidency. In the Presidential elections, held on November 4 after four years, Mr Ronald Reagan won a landslide victory that surprised and even startled the world and of course all well-wishers of Mr Jimmy Carter.

In most of the 50 States of the U.S.A. Mr Carter lost support and ultimately he conceded defeat; in a customary sporting gesture he offered his full co-operation to Mr Reagan to make his term a success and also to facilitate the transition from the Democratic Party to Republican rule. Mr Reagan is generally believed to be a conservative and rigid in his policies.

Mr Reagan's margin de-valued history's great landslides, those of Mr Richard M. Nixon in 1972 and of Mr Lyndon R. Johnson in 1964. Thus ended the longest campaign, in an electoral vote which belied the forecasts of the President and the pollsters that it would be a close race. On January 20, 1981, Mr Reagan will be sworn in as the 40th President of the U.S.A. Nearing 70, the former California Governor and film actor, will also be the oldest man to take the highest office.

Mr Reagan swept over President Carter in State after State because on all the major issues—Iran, inflation, foreign policy, defence and unemployment—the voters disapproved of President Carter's performance. This was evident even in the traditional Democratic constituencies. He lost the Roman Catholic vote as well as the blue-

collar vote. He barely won among union members and the Jewish voters.

According to an assessment, two-thirds of the nation's voters rated President Carter's performance as fair or poor, and more than three-fourths of those who felt that way voted for Mr Reagan.

Another facet of Mr Carter's problems was clear in the defections among voters who had supported him four years ago. This time the President got the votes of barely half of the people who voted for him in 1976.

The second most important issue was strengthening of the Americans' position in the world. By a 3 to 2 margin, the voters disapproved of President Carter's handling of the hostages crisis in Iran.

The Democrats retained control of the House of Representatives by a thin margin, their ranks badly depleted as Republicans, propelled by Mr Ronald Reagan's landslide victory, piled up substantial Congressional gains. Mr Reagan also helped his Republican Party to win control of the U.S. Senate for the first time in 26 years.

This means a popular mandate for a more domestic-oriented Congress, both a legislature and an executive that can be expected to be a far more hard-line and confrontational towards the Soviet Union and less concerned with the Third World of developing nations and their problems.

The totals give Mr Reagan 51% to Mr Carter's 41% of the actual popular vote, and 46% to 45% in the winner take-all electoral votes, the State-by-State tally which under the U.S. Constitution, counts for victory.

In the 435-member House of Representatives the old Democratic party majority of 276 to

159 was whittled down by at least 30 seats, which will mean that the Democrats will have far less control in any legislature vote.

Russia's Satisfaction: The Soviet Union, responding to the election of Mr Ronald Reagan, said on November 7 that it was ready for a normalisation and development of relations on the basis of peaceful co-existence.

The comment in a Tass report bitterly criticised President Carter, asserting that his rejection by the voters was largely due to his "anti-Soviet policies".

Iraq-Iran War

Iraq suddenly invaded Iran on September 22, and gained some initial advantages but lost them later when Iran succeeded in mobilising its forces, utilising all its reserves and displaying its staying power. Iran has rejected all peace overtures and seemed determined to continue the war. The worst aspect of the war is the permanent damage to rich oil sources. Iraq's invasion appears to have come to a dead stop along most sectors of the front according to the latest reports reaching Western analysts. Tanks and artillery remain in positions occupied initially, and the only fighting on a relatively small scale after several weeks of the war was in the ruined cities of Khorramshahr, Abadan and Ahwaz.

The U.S. and the other NATO analysts conclude that the Iraqis, having inflicted serious but not crippling losses on the Iranian Army, are content to sit tight and repeal any counter offensive.

The Iraqi Air Force virtually vanished from the air above the battlefield. The lull in the fighting found the Iraqi forces in favourable positions almost everywhere. Possibly, their

most important advance has been on Dezful.

The Iranian Prime Minister, Mr Mohammad Ali Rajai, warned Abu Dhabi, Kuwait and Jordan that Iran would count them as "participants" in the war if they helped Iraq.

Meanwhile, Ayatollah Khomeini rallied his nation and again rejected any accommodation with Iraq. The Ayatollah said: "We cannot compromise with corrupt elements; we will fight them to the end."

West Asia has seen many wars over boundaries and ideologies in the 20th century, but the conflict between Iran and Iraq is the biggest blow-up between two Gulf nations. There is now a stalemate in the war, with only occasional reports of damage and the casualties have been limited.

U.S. to Supply Arms to Gulf

The United States is far from neutral in the Iraq-Iran war. It is suspected of having prompted Iraq to teach Iran "a lesson". It will supply military hardware to neutral Gulf nations that feel threatened by the war, according to a decision taken by the Carter Administration on October 8.

The U.S. Deputy Secretary of State, Mr Warren Christopher, said in a major policy speech that the U.S. would honour "requests for assistance from non-belligerent friends in the area who feel threatened by the conflicts." The objective was to "prevent the conflict from expanding in ways that threaten the security of the region."

Carter's New Doctrine: In January last President Carter announced a new doctrine, on the lines of the famous Monroe Doctrine ("hands off Latin America"), to protect American interests in the Persian Gulf region. It was a unilateral

commitment and a warning to other powers against any move to gain control of the region. Any attempt by any outside force to gain control of the Persian Gulf region will be regarded as an assault on the vital interests of the United States of America and "it will be repelled by use of any means necessary, including military force".

End of White Supremacy in Africa

The end of White rule in Rhodesia-Zimbabwe in March, 1980, following a fair and free general election held under British (and in part international) supervision and the realisation by the power-obsessed Ian Smith group that the game was at last up, has been an event of the century. The Whites and their stooges who held the ministerial stage for about 10 months preceding the March poll failed to impress, and they suffered a humiliating electoral defeat. The emergence of the popular leader, Robert Mugabe, with a majority backing, and the reduction of the Whites' strength in the Rhodesian Parliament to 20 out of a total of 100 virtually clinched the issue. Rhodesia-Zimbabwe is now a free and independent country; the Whites are on the retreat, their era of economic exploitation may also soon come to an end, though they still control the vital mining interests.

U.N. Boycott of S. Africa

An overwhelming majority of U.N. Member-States on November 8 voted for a total boycott of South Africa. This is the latest in a long series of U.N. resolutions against the White, distinctly racist regime of South Africa which has denied basic rights to the large black population and treated it like inferior beings in pursuance of its apartheid policy. But the resolu-

tion is hardly likely to make any notable difference in practice.

The vote (91 in favour, 16 against and 26 abstaining) was taken by a Committee of the General Assembly which seemed certain to endorse it later.

The resolution urged, in particular, Britain, the U.S.A., West Germany, France, Japan, Belgium, Israel and Italy to end all collaboration with South Africa, whose racial policies have been repeatedly condemned in the U.N. and other international forums.

All States were asked to stop investing in or lending funds to South Africa, and to ensure that the export of oil to the racially segregated republic ceased. The resolution condemned the exploitation and plundering of the natural resources of Namibia (South-West Africa) by South Africa.

U.N. Decade for Water

On November 9, the U.N. launched the "International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (IDWSSD)." "With this movement the U.N. system has taken a major initiative that may have a direct impact on at least half the world's population by 1990. According to present estimates, over 2,000 million people are without reasonable access to safe and adequate water supply. Many more lack proper sanitation facilities among mankind's basic needs."

In countries like India the importance of water and its safe supply to the maximum number of people has been long recognised by the Government.

Brandt Commission Report

A well-thought-out programme for world survival, equality and justice, and for ending global poverty was presented by the Willy Brandt Com-

mission on North-South relations. The Commission, which released its report in March, appealed to all nations, especially the industrialised countries of the West and the East, to join the re-shaping of global economic relations and guarantee world peace, equality and justice.

In an introduction to the report, Mr Brandt said that in the interest of global needs and universal efforts, there should be a greater involvement of the Soviet Union and China in creating a new type of relationship which could accommodate all nations. Arms spending in the world had approached \$ 450 billion which could be turned into productive expenditure on development. Ironically, the Official Development Aid accounts for less than 5 per cent of the annual military bill.

The Commission's report outlines a programme for survival. It calls for an end to poverty and hunger before the end of the century, structural changes in the world economy with a fair balance and for mutual benefit, a new monetary order and a massive transfer of resources, particularly to the "poverty belts" of Africa and Asia.

Radical Reforms in Canada

The Canadian Prime Minister, Mr Pierre Elliott Trudeau, announced (on October 3) sweeping Constitutional reforms proposals to assure all Canadian Fundamental human and language rights for the first time in their 113-year history. And this is believed to be the beginning. The long-awaited proposals required the British Parliament to "send home" Canada's current Constitution, the British North America Act of 1867.

The British North America Act, technically controlled by the British Parliament, currently

functions as the Canadian Constitution. Mr Trudeau offered a resolution asking the British to relinquish control of the Act, "patriating" it to Canada.

The Trudeau proposals would guarantee rights in the Constitution that are binding on the federal and provincial governments and allow the courts to judge cases involving alleged violations.

Schmidt Back to Power

Chancellor Helmut Schmidt's Social Democratic Party was returned to power in the general elections held in West Germany early in October. The ruling left Liberal Coalition won an overall majority of 45 seats in the Bundestag (Lower House). The opposition coalition of Christian Democratic Union (CDU) and the Christian Social Union (CSU), which got about four per cent less votes than what they got in 1976, still remain the biggest parliamentary group in the Bundestag.

The real gainers were, however, the Liberal Free Democrats (FDP) of the Foreign Minister, Mr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, who improved their position from seven per cent of the votes polled in 1976 to 10 per cent.

In the new Parliament the SPU will have 218 seats (214 in 1976), the FDP 53 (39), and the NDU/CSU 226 (243).

The majority in the Bundestag will enable the ruling coalition to continue with what Chancellor Schmidt calls a "peace policy towards our neighbours of East and West."

Political Shake-up in China

Important political changes have taken place in China during the past few months. These mark a shift of power to another group of leaders. Following the resignation of Mr Hua

Guofeng, Mr Zhao Ziyang, described officially as a "very talented man", has taken over as the Prime Minister of China. Mr Ziyang was one of the Vice-Premiers under Hua's Premiership. Other far-reaching changes in the Government affected five Vice-Premiers. Mr Deng Xiaoping, Mr Li Xiannian, Mr Chen Yun, Mr Wang Zhen and Mr Xiangqian, who is also Defence Minister, have given up their Government posts while maintaining their posts in the Communist Party. Mr Hua has retained the party Chairmanship, the most important position in China.

The National People's Congress passed an amendment to the Constitution abolishing the right of citizens to express their views in so-called "big character posters".

The original Democracy Wall, on one of Beijing's main thoroughfares, became the centre and symbol of a new upsurge in outspokenness by ordinary Chinese people from late in 1978.

The Constitutional amendment deleted one sentence from Article 45 so as to abolish the right of citizens to "speak out freely, air their views fully, hold great debates and write big-character posters." However, citizens still, according to the Constitution, enjoy freedom of speech, correspondence, Press, assembly and association.

The Communist Party's Central Committee proposed the amendment on the ground that posters had been misused by many people for revolutionary or counter-revolutionary ends and also to libel others.

Policy Changes: Significant changes of policy and in the national laws have taken place in China. Liberalisation and modernisation are the notable trends of the new leaders' policy. On September 2 a new citizen-

ship law was unveiled before China's National People's Congress, banning dual nationality in what appeared to be primarily a foreign policy move. The law would allow Chinese wishing to return to their motherland to regain their citizenship.

China is also revising a 1950 law which sets the age of marriage at 20 for men and 18 for women. Under the new law the age will be raised to 20 for women and 22 for men. The marriage law will also require couples to practice family planning. China now insists on one-child families in order to control its population. The Draft law also makes divorce more difficult.

In the economic field, Mr Peng announced a 33% income tax on foreign Chinese joint ventures and individual income tax of 5% to 45%, for the first time since the Communist take-over. Only about 20 Chinese earn more than \$ 547 a month, and most of them are artists and entertainers.

Accord on Law of Sea

Seven years of sometimes bitter, usually tedious, talks for a treaty on the use of the seas and their resources have produced a consensus on a range of topics. Meeting in five-week or six-week sessions, the U.N. Conference on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) had thrice revised a lengthy negotiating text.

The issues declared settled and entered into the negotiating text, now entitled an "informal draft convention", include: establishing a 20-mile limit on territorial seas; allowing coastal States a 320-mile offshore "Exclusive Economic Zone" in which they could retain sovereign control of resources (landlocked and other States in the region being allowed a share of the fishing in the Exclusive Economic Zones),

providing for unimposed transit through straits used for international navigation (aircraft flight patterns being included in this provision).

There will be an agreed text of a treaty on an international maritime regime by the time the UNCLOS holds its tenth and final session in March, 1981. The two sides have found a workable basis for sharing the profits from sea-bed mining between private mining companies having a monopoly of the technology to retrieve the mineral wealth and the rest of the world which believes that this wealth should be treated as the "collective heritage of mankind".

Russia Warns Poland

Russia on November 10 warned that "strikes and abnormal working" in Poland would increase tension in the country and delay the achievement of economic objectives. Lately, labour and trade union unrest in Poland has caused much concern in Moscow. The Poles have won the right to form trade unions—an unusual right in a Communist, especially Russian-dominated, State.

Reiterating the terms of a communique released by the Polish authorities in Warsaw, "Pravda" said that only self-sacrificial work would enable Poland to overcome its current difficulties.

The Poles must unite to ensure "normal" work in each enterprise to help bring in the harvest and discuss (problems) in a calm and amicable atmosphere. Polish authorities had demanded that local authorities should take urgent measures to ensure a return to normalisation of socio-economic life, liquidate bureaucracy and put an end to violations of the law.

The Polish Communist leader, Mr Stanislaw Kania, met

President Brezhnev recently regarding his efforts "to stabilise the situation" in Poland.

Syria-Libya Merger

President Hafez Assad on September 2 agreed to merge Syria with Col Moammar Gaddafi's Libya to strengthen Arab defences against Israel. This was interpreted as another demonstrative bid to display solidarity through integration into a single entity.

The merger move appeared largely meaningless because the two countries are geographically far apart. The ruling governments have different political systems and ideologies. Libya is a theocracy, run despotically under broad Islamic principles. Syria considers itself secular. Both countries have good relations with the Soviet Union. Both countries are vocally at war with Israel, but neither is too happy with the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

A formal announcement of the Union was made on September 10. The two States decided to become one unit with a single Government and "revolutionary Congress (Common Parliament)". But the chances of the new Union proving a success are very limited. Similar unions in the Middle East (one effort included Egypt) in the past broke down after a few months.

Pakistan's Nuclear Bomb

Pakistan has ensured major achievements in nuclear technology by manufacturing its own nuclear fuel (uranium rods) through conversion of natural uranium. Although India made this achievement seven years ago, Pakistan has followed suit in a shorter time through Canada's assistance. This is further evidence of Pakistan's determination to become a nuclear Power.

Though Pakistan has been claiming that its nuclear programme is for peaceful purposes, it is well known that for a Tarapur-type nuclear reactors, only three per cent enrichment is needed, and the high enrichment level being attempted by Pakistan is not necessarily for the peaceful part of the programme it is known to have. The Pakistanis are reported to be trying both the plutonium way and the uranium way to an explosive device.

The Pakistani success in building natural uranium fuel rods is no mean achievement. It involved extracting uranium metal from ores of extremely low concentration around (0.06 per cent), purifying the metal and its conversion into precisely shaped pellets which are then packed in "pins" and the "pin bundles" further encased in tubes, also made of zirconium. It appears that Pakistan did not obtain help from abroad to get the rare and costly metals like zirconium. It also seems to have built "a fuels complex" for this purpose.

Martial Law in Pak

President Zia-ul-Haque, the Chief Martial Law Administrator, came out in his true colours during the past year. After announcing an indefinite postponement, verging on cancellation of elections and banning all political parties, he announced that martial law would henceforth be enforced in the country "as it should be enforced", that is, strictly and ruthlessly. All hopes of a democratic or civilian rule have consequently vanished.

Although President Zia seems well set in his position, discontent has been mounting in Pakistan. The main political party, Pakistan's People's Party (PPP), established by the late Mr Bhutto, is very powerful,

despite the legal ban imposed on it (as also on other political parties); in fact, Zia fears the growing power of the PPP.

President Zia later issued a new martial law order, extending the scope and powers of the military courts set up in Pakistan under his total martial law plan. General Zia seems determined to eliminate what he called "the virus of politicisation" from the bureaucracy and to free it of external loyalties.

On October 4 Gen Zia again ruled out general elections in his country, this time giving the argument that in the context of the regional situation this was not the opportune time. Zia often talks of establishing a semi-civilian administration but he does not command the support of the majority of his people.

Elections were, after all, "a means to an end, and not an end in itself", he said. Pakistan's 1973 democratic Constitution had not been abrogated, he asserted, but it was being used to bring the country "in line with the Islamic system".

Chinese Planes for Pak: China's latest pro-Pakistan and anti-Indian gesture was made on November 8, when it was learnt that Pakistan has started receiving the latest jet fighter aircraft and modified ground-to-air missiles from Peking as part of a new deal signed with that country. In previous years also, China has been arming Pakistan in vital sectors and establishing close military contacts.

The first batch of the fighter aircraft, code-named by NATO as "Fantan", has already arrived. Pakistan will receive three squadrons of "Fantan" fighters to re-equip some of the MIG-19 squadrons of its air force. The deal was signed during the first visit of the Pakistan Air Force Chief, Air Chief Marshal Anwar Mohammad Shamim, to Beijing

(Peking) in June when he led a big delegation to that country.

Russian Hold on Afghans

During the year 1980 the Soviet Union consolidated its hold on Afghanistan which it has occupied in December, 1979. The Soviet occupation is now an established fact, despite all the calls by the U.N. for vacating the aggression. Afghanistan endorsed on April 4 a treaty on the "temporary stay of a limited contingent of Soviet troops" on its territory. The terms and conditions of the treaty had been approved by the President of the Revolutionary Council.

Both Afghanistan and the Soviet Union maintained that the Soviet Union troops were in Afghanistan at the invitation of the Afghan Government. But there had been no public reference to a treaty.

President Babrak Karmal stated in Kabul that "limited contingents" of Soviet troops had come to Afghanistan at the request of the Afghan Government in accordance with the 1978 Treaty of friendship, co-operation and good neighbourliness between the two countries. Following growing international pressure, and also in a bid to make a gesture, the Russians withdrew one division from Kabul but it was just a token withdrawal and has not convinced the world of the Soviets' real intentions. In fact, the wide world is reconciled to the Soviet domination of Afghanistan; it has become a part of recent history—a fact that cannot be reversed because no nation ever abandons its crucial gains obtained through diplomatic and military coups, as in Kabul.

Mr Babrak Karmal had a 20-day stay in Russia during which he won pledges of continued support for his Marxist Government from the Kremlin.

Pakistan on November 3 indirectly accused Russia of trying to annex the Wakhan Salient in a bid to deprive China of direct access to Afghanistan and make its own border touch north Pakistan.

The Government-owned Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) carried an Islamabad report, quoting reliable information received from across the border to say that Russia had been quietly busy over the last six months in annexing the Salient. The move, it said, was aimed at getting a strategic edge over China and Pakistan and give the Russians a firm hand to consolidate their position in Afghanistan for a permanent stay there.

Russia-Syria Treaty

On October 9 there was a dramatic development in the international sphere when the Soviet Union and Syria signed a 20-year friendship treaty that calls for stronger and lasting military co-operation, besides immediate contact when either party is threatened and regular consultations become necessary, especially on the problems of West Asia. This is interpreted as a counter-move to the increasing U.S. influence in the Middle East.

The Syrian sources described the document as one of "exceptional importance" and different from Soviet friendship pacts with other Third World nations.

The Soviets had been largely excluded from a major role in West Asia since Egypt's expulsion of Soviet advisers in 1972.

Record Arms Expenditure

The world's expenditure on armaments is about to reach a fantastic level—600 billion dollars. In 1980 it had already gone up to 500 billion, marking a 10% increase over last year's

level of 460 billion. The hypocrisy of disarmament talks and peace treaties is apparent. In 1960 and 1970, by contrast, the yearly average expenditure for military purposes (worldwide) was \$ 370 billion adjusted to the 1979 price levels.

These are among the major findings of "World Military and Social Expenditures", a yearly review of comparative government spending released in Washington on September 5.

The rise in world military spending last year exceeded the pace of inflation for the eighth year in a row. "Despite the critical need to develop new and less expensive sources of energy to increase lagging industrial productivity and to combat inflation, governments are spending eight times as much for research on new weapons as they do on solving energy problems.

No indicator more graphically shows the incredible destructive power that is loose in the world than the spread and numbers of nuclear weapons, now over 50,000 of them. There is a steady increase in the speed, accuracy and ability to destroy civilisation. While military budgets went up, living standards declined. World-wide prices rose faster, energy supplies were tighter, more people were unemployed.

Para-military and reservist forces are at least twice as numerous as the regulars. Civilians directly employed by the military and those working on weapons research, production or related activities, bring to over 100 million the number of people paid directly or indirectly by defence ministries.

Six nations are capable of producing nuclear weapons. It is estimated that 10 others have these weapons stationed on their soil or provide bases for the planes and ships that transport them. The Super Powers are

still investing well over \$ 100 million per day to upgrade their nuclear arsenals.

N. Powers' Tactics

A detailed study of nuclear weapons and the strategies adopted by the various nuclear powers, conducted by a U.N. team, has resulted in the exposure of many unpublished manoeuvres. The study proves that the Big Powers' policies contain the seed of proliferation of nuclear weapons. The attitude of those nuclear-weapons States which emphasise only the need to curb horizontal proliferation while advancing political and military "realities" as pretexts for curbing the nuclear arms race, is highlighted; it does not contribute to the building up of mutual confidence in the international community.

The N.P.T. Conference (August 11 to September 6) had collapsed even before the study was released. The findings challenge the conventional wisdom propagated by nuclear-weapon Powers and their allies. But this document is going to feature increasingly in the disarmament negotiations and give the developing world a much-needed conceptual framework to rebut the plausible strategic doctrines propounded by the military-academic media complex of the industrialised nations.

The document extends powerful support for the resolution which India moved in the General Assembly in December, 1978, demanding that the use of nuclear weapons be declared a violation of the U.N. Charter and a crime against humanity. The resolution was adopted by 103 votes against 18 (NATO countries and their allies).

Indian Ocean Race

The Indian Ocean and Diego Garcia were very much in the news again in 1980 because of

the U.S. efforts to strengthen its bases as a counter to the growing Russian influence in the Asian region. Large-scale military equipment has been rushed to Diego Garcia which is being rapidly developed into one of the strongest American fortresses in the Ocean area. A Big-Power tussle is in progress again, the other factor that has fed the arms race being the developments in Iran.

Each Power is anxious to safeguard its oil supply lines. All the talks of making the Indian Ocean a "zone of peace" has turned out to be vain and futile. The Big Powers will

continue to do what suits their strategic policies and purposes; no one bothers about the wailings of the Third World which is itself faction ridden.

The demand by Mauritius asking Britain to return the Diego Garcia island to it is a cry in the wilderness. Massive amounts have been invested by the U.S.A. in building up the huge Diego Garcia base, and there is to be no going back.

Russia has also strengthened its bases in the Indian Ocean and has sent more ships and troops to meet any potential challenge.

ROUND-UP OF NATIONAL AFFAIRS (Contd. from page 384)

Kampuchea (former Cambodia). India did not have any diplomatic mission in Phnom Penh, the Kampuchean capital, for many years. The main factor in the decision has been the usual yardstick, the new regime being in effective control of the country.

Announcing the decision amidst cheers in the Lok Sabha the External Affairs Minister, Mr P.V. Narasimha Rao, said: "We propose to immediately establish diplomatic relations with the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea in Phnom Penh, headed by President Heng Samrin". Reminding the members of the present Government's commitment to recognise the new Government in Kampuchea, Mr Rao said this stand was shared by an overwhelming majority of political opinion in India.

Turmoil in Assam

Almost the entire north-eastern region of the country was seriously disturbed during the year 1980. The basic issue was of "foreigners" (as highlighted in the Assam agitation). While the Assam stir was generally non-violent, except in the later stages, there was much

bloodshed in Tripura war, and violence in some other parts of the country's north-eastern region, including Assam, occurred during June, 1980.

The Government of India has held several rounds of talks with the Assam agitation leaders, but without success. The compromise formulas suggested on the issue of "foreigners" have not been accepted. The dispute now is over the cut-off year—1961 or 1971—from which the "identity of foreigners" is to be determined. Towards the close of 1980 the agitation took a serious form, with more threats of "bandhs" and work stoppages in Assam, and some loss of life in police firing.

In Tripura the clashes, which caused a loss of over 400 lives, were basically communal in nature, with the tribals adopting aggressive postures against the non-tribals—the outsiders. The orgy of death and destruction was described as "unprecedented" since Partition. The mass killings, looting and arson took place even after the declaration of two-thirds of Tripura State as a "disturbed area" and the posting of the armed forces and adoption of other precautionary measures by the Government.

ROUND-UP OF CURRENT GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

Anniversaries—Awards—Books—Defence—Persons—Places—Projects—Space Research—
U.N.O.—Important to Remember.

ANNIVERSARIES

The birth centenary of Munshi Prem Chand, famous Indian novelist, was celebrated on July 31, 1980.

The birth bi-centenary (200th birthday) of Maharaja Ranjit Singh (1780-1839) was celebrated on November 13, 1980.

AWARDS

Republic Day Awards, 1980

Bharat Ratna: Mother Teresa, Nobel Peace Prize winner (1979), widely acknowledged as a living saint.

Padma Vibhushan: Ustad Bismillah Khan, the eminent *shchnai* player, and Rai Krishnadasa, the eminent scholar and author.

Padma Bhushan: Sunil Gavaskar, former Indian cricket Captain.

Other National Awards

Jnanpith Award for 1979: Birendra Kumar Bhattacharya, noted Assamese poet and novelist, for his novel *Mritunjaya*.

The Rs. 1 lakh award has been sponsored by the Akhil Bharatiya Jnanpith set up to conduct researches so as to bring out the extinct and rare unpublished work of knowledge and to give impetus to the creation of original contemporary literature in various Indian languages.

Nehru Literacy Award: Janardan Rai Nagar, founder Upkulpati of the Rajasthan Vidyapeeth at Udaipur, has been awarded the Nehru Literacy Award of the Indian Adult Education Association for his outstanding contribution to the promotion of adult education in the country.

Film Awards

27th National Film Festival Awards for 1979

Best National Feature Film: *Shodh* (Hindi). (*Shodh* produced by Mr Sitakant Misra, depicts the tale of a youth fighting against poverty, exploitation and superstition in an Orissa village.)

Best Feature film in Hindi: *Sparsh*.

Best Feature Film on National Integration: *22nd June 1897* (Marathi).

Best Children's Film: *Dangeyeda Makkalu* (Kannada).

Best Actor: Naseeruddin Shah of *Sparsh* (Hindi).

Best Actress: Mrs Shoba of *Pasi* (Tamil).

Best Child Actor: Miss Geeta Khanna of *Aangan Ki Kali* (Hindi).

Best Direction: Mrinal Sen of *Ek Din Prati Din* (Bengali).

Best Music Direction: K.V. Mahadevan of *Shankarabharanam* (Telugu).

Best Male Playback Singer: S.P. Balasubrahmanyam of *Shankarabharanam* (Telugu).

Best Female Playback Singer: Vani Jayaram of *Shankarabharanam* (Telugu).

Dadasaheb Phalke Award

Sohrab Modi, veteran film-maker, for his "outstanding contribution to the cause of the Indian cinema."

Nobel Prizes, 1980

Peace: Adolfo Poroz Esquivel of Argentina for "devoting his life to the struggle for human rights since 1974". 48-year-old Mr Esquivel is a sculptor, architect and human rights advocate.

Literature: Czeslaw Milosz, an exiled Polish writer. 69-year-old Mr Milosz, born in Lithuania, has been living in exile in the U.S.A. since 1960.

Physics: shared equally by Professor James W. Cronin of Chicago University and Professor Val L. Fitch of Princeton University "for the discovery of violations of fundamental symmetry principles in the decay of neutral K-mesons."

Chemistry: shared by two Americans and one Briton "for biochemical studies and nucleic acids." Professor Paul Berg of Stanford University in California, received one half of the \$ 212,000 prize. The other half went jointly to Harvard professor, Walter Gilbert and British professor Frederick Sanger of Cambridge University.

Prof Sanger won the Nobel Prize for the second time. He previously won it in 1958.

Medicine: shared equally by three men: Prof Baruj Benacerraf (of the U.S.A.), Prof Jean d'Ausset (of France), and Mr George Snell (of the U.S.A.) "for their discoveries about genetically-determined cell surface structures that regulate immunological reactions."

Economics: Prof Lawrence Klein of the University of Pennsylvania

(U.S.A.) for "the creation of economic models and their application to the analysis of economic fluctuations and economic policies.

The prize money this year is a record 8,80,000 kronor (\$ 2,12,000).

15th Nehru Award for "International Understanding" for 1979

Nelson R. Mandela, the South African freedom fighter "as a recognition of the relevance of the ideals of a free world order for which he has struggled."

The award, instituted in 1964 and administered by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, carries a cash prize of Rs. 1 lakh and a citation.

Magsaysay Award for 1980

Shigeharu Matsumoto of Japan has been awarded the Magsaysay Award for "international understanding" in recognition of his efforts to build constructive relations between the Japanese and others "through shared knowledge of their diverse histories, needs and national aspirations". Mr Matsumoto heads the International House of Japan which he founded in 1952.

U.N. Peace Medal

Dr M.C. Modi, well-known for his free eye camps and mass eye operations, has been awarded the U.N. Peace Medal for his outstanding work in trying to eradicate blindness.

Marconi Prize

Prof Yash Pal, Director of the Indian Government's Space Application Centre, has been honoured with a \$ 25,000 award—the sixth Marconi International Fellowship—in Sydney.

The fellowship was founded in 1974 by a daughter of Italian radio pioneer Guglielmo Marconi.

Prof Yash Pal was honoured for his work in adapting satellite television for the instructional and educational benefit of villagers in northern India.

7th International Film Festival held in New Delhi (January 3-17, 1979)

Best Feature Film: "Hungarians" directed by Zoltan Fabri awarded Golden Peacock.

Best Short Films: shared by "An Encounter with Faces" (India) and "Olympic Games" (Poland). These

short films were about children. Awarded *Golden Peacock*.

Best Actor: Shankar Nag in the Indian entry "Ondanondu Kaladalli" (Kannada) directed by Girish Karnad. Awarded *Silver Peacock*.

Best Actress: Savannah Smith for her role as a frightened hostage in the American film "Five Days from Home". Awarded *Silver Peacock*.

Best Director in the Feature Film Category: Billy Wilder, for his film "Fedora" made in West Germany.

Jury's Special Prize for the most promising film: Muzaffar Ali's "Gaman" (Hindi).

33rd Cannes Film Festival

Golden Palm Award: shared by "Kagemusha" (Shadow Warrior) by veteran Japanese director Akira Kurosawa, and "All That Jazz" by American Bob Fosse.

Best Actor: Michel Piccoli of France.

Best Actress: Anouk Aimme of France.

Fourth World Film Festival, Montreal

"Grand Prize of the Americas": "Fontamara" by Italian director Carlo Lizzani and "the Stunt Man" by U.S. director Richard Rush were unanimously chosen to share the festival's "Grand Prize of the Americas". The winning films represent the extremes of contemporary cinema.

Best Actor Award: Robert Duvall, veteran U.S. actor won the Best Actor award for his role as a marine pilot and domineering father in "The Great Santini", a U.S. movie written and directed by Lewis John Carlino.

Best Actress Award: It went to Spanish child actress Ana Torrent for her memorable performance in *El Niño* (meaning 'nest') as a diabolical young girl who leads a rich widow to ruin.

BOOKS

"Hero of Our Time": It is biography of Lord Mountbatten written by Richard Hough. The author has alleged that the negotiations on the transfer of power in India were markedly affected by Lady Edwina Mountbatten's close relationship with Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.

The book was timed to coincide with the first anniversary of Lord Mountbatten's assassination. Mountbatten, who was assassinated by Irish Republican Army guerillas a year ago, was the British Viceroy of India at the time of partition.

Mr Hough asserts in his 273-page book, priced at £ 8·50, that Edwina's

affairs caused much misery in their marriage, which Lord Mountbatten is on record having said was one of the most wonderful things that happened to him.

The book has been hailed by British newspapers as a highly successful biography.

Caste Challenge in India: by Mr Jagjivan Ram, former Deputy Prime Minister of India.

The author in his book wants laws banning scavenging and similar occupations so that a casteless society is possible. He says that the de-humanising profession of scavenging was not vital for and could be dispensed with "by a little change in our ways of living." Inter-caste marriages should be encouraged by the upper castes and young people taking the step should be given every encouragement.

Mr Ram, in his book, rejects change of religion and revolution as solutions to the problems of Harijans and says that only the uplift of the submerged sections as a whole would bring about national prosperity.

Three Winters: is a collection of poems written by Mr Czeslaw Milosz, an exiled Polish writer, who has been awarded the 1980 Nobel Prize for Literature. The book was published in 1936.

DEFENCE

INS "Taragiri": is the fifth of the six Leander class frigates, and one of the finest, most modern and sophisticated frigates in the world. It was formally commissioned into the Indian Navy on May 17, 1980.

The nearly Rs. 40-crore frigate, built by the State-owned Mazagon Docks in Bombay, is a fully indigenous warship, capable of performing varied roles in combat against ships, aircraft and submarines.

The ship carries a wide variety of weapons to combat threats posed by enemy warships and aircraft and these include a number of radar sets. It is equipped with the most sophisticated communication equipments.

The four other Leander class frigates are: INS Nilgiri, INS Himachal, INS Dunagiri, and INS Udaygiri.

The first Leander, *Nilgiri*, was commissioned in June 1972.

PERSONS

Amir Khusrav: Khawaja Amir Khusrav, whose 675th Urs (death anniversary) was "celebrated" recently in the Sufi tradition at Urs Mahal (his shrine) in Nizamuddin in New

Delhi was a great Sufi poet-courtier. He was known as "Tooti-e-Hind" (literally "the Nightingale of India") because of his accomplishments in the fields of poetry, music and literature.

He wrote much of his poetry in Persian, Sanskrit and *Khari Boli*.

Attenborough, Sir Richard: He is a British film director currently venturing to produce multi-million dollar film on Mahatma Gandhi—a joint Indo-British venture.

Barre, Siad: is President of Somalia. He was in the news when on October 21, he declared a state of emergency, saying opportunists were threatening stability at a time when Somalia was menaced by neighbouring Ethiopia.

Benacerraf, Prof Baruj: He is co-sharer of the 1980 Nobel Prize in Medicine along with Prof Jean d'Ausset and George Snell.

Born in Caracas, Prof Benacerraf has been an American citizen since 1943 and pathology professor at Harvard Medical School in Boston, Massachusetts since 1970.

Prof Benacerraf, along with two researchers, has explored the genetic regulation of the body's immune response. Their research showed that so-called H-antigens (histocompatibility antigens) determine the interaction of the multitude of different cells responsible for the body's immunological reactions—including combat of infections and rejection of foreign matter.

Bhattacharya, Birendra Kumar: He is a creative literary journalist and a noted Assamese poet. He was in the news having won the Jnanpith Award for 1979 for his novel *Mritunjaya*.

Berg, Prof Paul: of Stanford University in California, is one of the three winners of the 1980 Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

New York born Prof Berg, 54 has been cited for his fundamental studies of the bio-chemistry of nucleic acids.

Charles, Miss Mary Eugenia: She is the first woman Prime Minister of Dominica, the newly-independent Caribbean island nation.

Miss Charles, a 61-year-old lawyer, who belongs to Dominica Freedom Party, describes herself as a liberal democrat, anti-Communist and a believer in free enterprise.

Chon Doo-hwan, Gen: a former army strongman, was formally installed as the fifth President of South Korea on Sept. 1. He has reaffirmed a previously announced Government plan to hold new elections by next

June under a new Constitution to be put to national referendum.

Cronin, Prof James W.: is co-sharer of the 1980 Nobel Prize in Physics along with Prof Val L. Fitch (both of U.S.A.).

Prof Cronin works at Chicago University. The award has been given to him "for three related symmetry principles that are important to fundamental laws of nature."

The discovery, like several others in recent years, helps to explain the "Big Bang" theory on the creation of solar system and earth.

d'Ausset, Prof Jean: co-sharer of the 1980 Nobel Prize in Medicine, is a Frenchman working at the immunology and haematology (blood study) laboratory of the University of Paris at Saint Louis Hospital.

Elytis, Odysseus: who has won the 1979 Nobel Prize in Literature, is 68-year-old Greek poet. He has written a folklore mythology called "A Bible of the Greek people". Elytis is the pen name of Odysseus Alephudhelis.

Esquivel, Adolfo Pérez, of Argentina, is 48-year-old sculptor, architect and human rights advocate who has been awarded the 1980 Nobel Peace Prize.

Mr Esquivel, who "has devoted his life to the struggle for human rights since 1974", is a leader of the organisation *Servicio Pary Justice*, which has its head office in Buenos Aires and subsidiaries in a number of Latin American countries.

Mr Esquivel is the second Argentinian to win the Nobel Peace Prize in its 79-year history. The first was the late Carlos Saavedra Lamas, the Argentine Secretary of State who was honoured in 1936 for mediating in a conflict between Paraguay and Bolivia.

Gilbert, Prof Walter: is one of the three co-sharers of the 1980 Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

48-year-old Prof Gilbert has been cited, along with British Prof Frederick Sanger of Columbia University, "for their contributions concerning the determination of base sequences in nucleic acids."

Hebbar, Kattigeri Krishna: eminent painter, was in the news having been appointed chairman of the Lalit Kala Akademi.

Mr Hebbar who is a Fellow of the Lalit Kala Akademi was awarded Padma Shri in 1961.

He graduated in painting from the Sir J.J. School of Art, Bombay in 1938 and later studied at the Academy Julian, Paris, 1949-50.

He is the recipient of several awards, including the gold medals of the Academy of Fine Arts—Calcutta, Bombay Art Society and the Lalit Kala Akademi.

He was chairman of the Karnataka State Lalit Kala Akademi since 1976.

Juliana, Queen: 71-year-old Queen Juliana of Netherlands, was in the news when she abdicated on April 30, 1980, her 71st birthday, stepping aside for her oldest daughter Crown Princess Beatrix (42).

Kato, Yasuo: of Japan was in the news having scaled Mount Everest alone via its most hazardous north-east ridge route to become the first non-Chinese to reach the top of the world's highest peak from the Tibetan side.

Kim Jong Il: He is son of President Kim Il Sung of North Korea. He has been installed as heir apparent to the aging leader by North Korea's ruling workers (Communist) party.

Klein, Prof Lawrence: See "Nobel Prize in Economics" under "AWARDS".

Libba, Willard E.: who died recently at the age of 71, was a Nobel laureate, a chemist whose accomplishments helped man explore the solar system and probe his distant past.

Prof Libba helped develop the atomic bomb during World War II and tried to harness its power with the "Atom For Peace" programme a decade later.

He won the 1960 Nobel Prize in chemistry for developing the radioactive carbon-dating methods, now considered indispensable by archaeologists. The procedure, which measures the relative abundance of two types of carbon, can determine the age of once-living things back to 50,000 years.

His work as a scientist included space exploration and lunar research.

Mandela, Nelson R.: is the 61-year-old South African freedom fighter who has been awarded the 15th Jawaharlal Nehru Award for 1979 for "international understanding".

Mr Mandela has been the foremost South African leader in the struggle for abolition of apartheid and establishment of equality, freedom and independence in S. Africa. He was a prisoner of the South African racist regime for 16 years.

Matsumoto, Shigeharu: who heads the International House of Japan which he founded in 1952, has been named for the Manila-based Ramon Magsaysay Award for "international understanding" in recognition of his efforts to build constructive relations between the Japanese and others "through shared knowledge of their diverse histories, needs and national aspirations."

McGrady, Lorraine Gaye: She is 20-year-old blue-eyed fashion model from Australia. She has been crowned as "Miss Asia 1980". Miss McGrady is a five-foot-six-inch stunner from Brisbane, who weighs 114 lb. distributed in her 34-24-34 figure.

Miller, Henry: who died on June 7, 1980 at the age of 88, was the controversial author whose early novels were barred from the U.S. for nearly 30 years. He is author of "Tropic of Cancer" and "Tropic of Capricorn".

Milosz, Czeslaw: He is an exiled Polish writer who has been awarded the 1980 Nobel Prize for Literature.

Mr Milosz is 69. He was born in Lithuania in 1911 with Polish as his mother tongue and has been living in exile in the U.S.A. since 1960. He teaches at Berkeley University in California.

The 18-member Swedish Academy of Letters decided to award the prize to Mr Milosz "who with uncompromising clear-sightedness voices man's exposed condition in a world of severe conflicts."

Mr Milosz is a profuse writer of both prose and poetic works and is also known for political, literary and highly intellectual cultural analyses. He has written a partly autobiographical novel but regards himself chiefly as a poet.

His first collection of poems appeared in 1933. It brought him a prize and enabled him to study in Paris in 1934-35. Back in Vilna, he published a second collection of poems in 1936 called "Three Winters".

Mohammed Rafi: Noted Hindi playback singer who died on July 31 at the age of 55, had warmed the hearts of millions of film-goers and music-lovers in India and abroad.

Mother Teresa: Bharat Ratna (1980). Mother Teresa, born on August 27, 1910, is the Yugoslavia-born Roman Catholic nun who moved to Calcutta's slum "to serve God among the poorest of the poor." She had been awarded the 1979 Nobel Peace Prize "in recognition of her work in bringing help to suffering humanity." She is the first citizen of India to win the Nobel Peace Prize.

Mugabe, Robert: He is the militant black leader of Zimbabwe (formerly Rhodesia) who won a landslide victory in the independence elections held in Feb.-March, 1980. He is the first Prime Minister of independent Zimbabwe.

Nagar, Janardan Rai: He is founder Upkulpati of the Rajasthan Vidyapeeth at Udaipur. He has been awarded the Nehru Literacy Award for 1980 for his outstanding contribution to the promotion of adult education in the country.

Pahlavi, Reza Mohammed: the former Shah of Iran who was toppled from power in January, 1979, died in Cairo on July 27 at the age of 60 following a protracted illness.

Peter Sellers: who died on July 24 was a famous film actor who played a wide variety of comedy roles in more than 40 films, including the character of a French detective, Inspector Clouseau in the "Pink Panther" series. He was nominated for an Oscar for his latest film "Being There".

Prakash Padukone: National Badminton champion, was in the lime-light when he completed the grand slam upsetting the defending champion Liem Swie King of Indonesia on March 23, 1980 to win the men's singles title at the All-England Badminton Championship held at Wembley.

Prem Chand, Munshi: was a noted novelist who wrote in Hindi and Urdu. He was in the news when on July 31, 1980, his birth centenary was celebrated and it was decided by a national committee to make his works easily available through translations in every Indian language and also spread his works abroad through translations.

Rajai, Mohammad Ali: who became the second Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran (the first P.M. being Dr Bazargan who had resigned in November 1979) on August 12, 1980, is a religious fundamentalist. On assuming office, he said he would look on his new responsibilities "as a religious duty".

He also said that his Cabinet, according to the wishes of Ayatollah Khomeini, would be "100% Islamic", adding "I will oppose formation of a coalition Government."

Ranjit Singh, Maharaja: (1780-1839) whose birth bicentenary (200th birthday) was celebrated on November 13, 1980, was Indian ruler and leader of the Sikhs, popularly known as Sher-e-Punjab ("Lion of the Punjab"). He was born on November 13, 1780.

By birth the head of one of several competing Sikh groups, he rose to primacy through his own genius, and was one of the ablest Indians of the century. He freely employed Hindus and Muslims as well as Europeans, but always on a basis of Sikh supremacy.

Reagan, Ronald: President-elect of the U.S.A. was the Republican candidate who trounced Mr Jimmy Carter all across the country in winning election as the 40th President of the U.S.A.

Mr Reagan, who at 69 will be the oldest President to take office, crushed Mr Carter in State after State in a contest that turned into a runaway.

With him was elected Mr George Bush, his running mate, as Vice-President.

(Mr Carter thus became the first elected President to be turned out of office by the voters since Republican Herbert Hoover lost in 1932 in the years of the great depression.)

Sakharov, Andrei: He is the Soviet dissident leader. He along with his wife, Yelena Bonner, were exiled in Gorky on January 23, 1980.

Mr Sakharov is one of the Soviet Union's leading nuclear physicists.

Samrin, Heng: He is chairman of the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea.

Sanger, Prof Frederick: 62-year-old British professor of Cambridge University is co-sharer of the 1980 Nobel Prize in Chemistry along with two Americans—Prof Paul Berg and Prof Walter Gilbert.

Prof Sanger has won the Nobel Prize for the second time. He previously won it in 1958 for his work in chemical code-bearing of proteins, the building blocks of living matter.

Salamat Ali: He is a Pakistani journalist, correspondent of the Hong-Kong-based Far Eastern Economic Review, who was sentenced to one year's rigorous imprisonment in November, 1979, by a military tribunal of Pakistan under the martial law.

He was released by the Martial Law authorities on March 29, 1980, on "compassionate grounds".

Sanjay Gandhi: M.P. and son of Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi, who died in a plane crash on June 23, 1980, in New Delhi, was a prominent figure in the Congress (I) youth wing. A few days before his death he was elected General Secretary of the Congress (I).

Sartre, Jean-Paul: who died recently at the age of 74, was a famous French philosopher. His philosophy of existentialism dominated Europe after world war II. Sartre's writings meant to help mankind shake off oppression and inequality. But his message was too intellectual to appeal to the masses he tried to help.

Seretse Khama, Sir: President of Botswana, who died on July 13, 1980, at the age of 59, was Botswana's only leader since the country's independence from Britain in 1966.

His marriage to white England clerk Ruth Williams in 1948 caused an uproar throughout Africa. But as Lady Ruth she was later accepted politically in both Botswana and London.

Snell, George: of the U.S.A. is co-sharer of the 1980 Nobel Prize in Medicine. He works at Jackson Laboratory, Bar Harbor in Maine. He is 77 but still active.

Sohrab Modi: veteran film-maker who made "Pukar", almost four decades ago, now considered as a classic, was in the news having won the coveted Dadasaheb Phalke Award for 1979 for his "outstanding contribution to the cause of Indian cinema."

Suzuki, Zenko: who has emerged as the new Prime Minister of Japan, was a supporter of the former Prime Minister, Mr Masayoshi Ohira, who died on June 12, 1980. Mr Suzuki was the unanimous choice of the factions of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party.

Wechmar, Ruediger Von: He has been elected as President of the 35th session of the U.N. General Assembly.

Mr Wechmar, a career diplomat, was the West German Ambassador to the United Nations before his election as President of the world body.

Yash Pal, Prof: 53-year-old Prof Yash Pal is Director of the Space Application Centre at Ahmedabad. He has recently been appointed Secretary-General of the second U.N Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. He is an alumnus of Panjab University. A outstanding space scientist he has won so many honours that he himself seems to have lost track of them Awards and recognition seem to chase him.

Honours have been showered on him since 1958 for his work on cosmic rays, high energy physics, astrophysics and SITE.

In 1973 he was appointed Director of the Space Applications Centre at Ahmedabad. Under him the Centre has made significant progress in research and development in space communications and remote sensing. The entire SITE schedule was drawn up by Prof Yash Pal.

Zhao Ziyang: 61, who has been appointed as Prime Minister of China to succeed Mr Hua Guofeng, was member of the Party Politburo and in 1979, one of its Standing Committee men.

A native of Henan province, M Zhao joined the Communist Party in 1938. After many years as a administrator and First Secretary of the populous southern province Guangdong, he moved to Mr Deng

native province Sichuan, the most densely populated province and one of the poorest. He lifted it up with a bold programme which emphasized independence for enterprise and profit-sharing with workers.

PLACES

Abadan: in Iran, is known for Asia's biggest and one of the world's biggest oil refineries. It has become inoperative due to undeclared war between Iraq and Iran. It was surrounded by Iraqi troops who took positions in the suburbs of Abadan on Oct. 15, 1980, trying to infiltrate into the city.

Ahwaz: is capital of Iran's oil province of Khuzestan and Mahashahr where fierce fighting has been going on as Iranian and Iraqi troops battled for the control of the capital of Iran's oil province of (Khuzestan).

Cholistan: is the desert area not far off from the Rajasthan border, chosen by Pakistan as site for an underground nuclear explosion. Even tunnelling is said to be in progress for an underground blast. Pakistan probably wants to go for the big bang by the end of 1981.

Diego Garcia: It is a small island some 27 sq. km. in size and 1,600 km. south of India's southern tip. It has become the most important American military base in the Indian Ocean. The U.S.A. considers the use of this island, which is under British jurisdiction, as a full-time base in an area where events such as those in Iraq-Iran and Afghanistan have led to an increased American military presence.

It was also in the news recently when the Mauritius Prime Minister, Sir Seewoosagar Ramgoolam, asked for the return of Diego Garcia ceded to Britain 15 years ago at the time of his country's independence. Reports from Port Louis (capital of Mauritius) indicate that Sir Seewoosagar's action was prompted by the recent American military build-up at Diego Garcia although Mauritius has all these years reconciled itself to the leasing of the island by the U.K. to the U.S.A. for the establishment by the latter of military storage and staging facilities there.

Durand Line: It is the frontier line between Pakistan and Afghanistan, named after a British diplomat who drew it in the last century. It runs across forbidding mountain tops separating Pakistan's North-West Frontier Province from Afghanistan.

It is frequently crossed by Afghan insurgents with arms and ammunition to fight the Communist regime in Kabul and to return with intelligence

on Soviet and Afghan army movements.

El-Asnam: city in Western Algeria which was hit by two major earthquakes on October 11, 1980, and virtually levelled the town trapping about 55,000 people.

Khorramshahr: is Iran's major oil port where severe fighting has been going on between Iraq and Iran. Both sides have been claiming control of the port. A \$ 3 billion Persian Gulf petroleum complex is under construction in the east of Khorramshahr.

Kwangju: is the rebellious provincial city in South Korea where several hundred diehard insurgents continued their armed resistance amid growing chance of a major military assault on them at any moment in the last week of May, 1980. The South Korean forces, however, withdrew from Kwangju after crushing a major anti-government rebellion. A total of 133 persons were reported killed in rioting in the city.

Maxwell Montes: is the name given to the highest point found on Venus mapped by American space-craft Pioneer Venus-1. The mountain is higher than Everest. It is at right in the highest and most dramatic continent-sized highland region on Venus named Ishtar Terra. The smooth plateau has been named *Lakshmi Planum* and rises about 3 km. above the planet surface. Maxwell Montes rises 8.2 km. above the *Lakshmi Planum*.

Narmadanagar near Broach in Gujarat State, is the place where the world's largest oil-based fertilizer plant is taking shape.

Shatt-Al-Arab: Where the waters of the Tigris and Euphrates come together and flow down the Gulf is the disputed Waterway (river) which marks the frontier between Iraq and Iran. It runs between the two countries at the head of the Gulf where heavy fighting has been going on for control of the Waterway.

Shatt-Al-Arab is Iraq's only outlet to the sea. On one side of the 100-mile stretch is Basra, Iraq's major port, and on the other side is Abadan, the site where Iran's largest oil refinery is located.

At the mouth of the estuary both the countries maintain their oil terminals.

The dispute over the control of Shatt-Al-Arab has been raging intermittently between Iran and Iraq since the fall of the Ottoman empire, when Turkey controlled both banks for a long period.

Iraq was exercising full sovereignty over the entire estuary. By that deal the late Shah of Iran agreed to stop his regime's support to the Kurdish

rebels (who were fighting for Independence from Iraq). Iraq in return agreed the border between the two countries was to run down the centre of the Waterway.

St Vincent and Grenadines: The island nation of St Vincent and Grenadines in the Carribbeans is to become a new member of the United Nations. The Security Council at its meeting on February 5, 1980, approved its application for U.N. membership unanimously recommending the General Assembly to accord admission.

Strait of Hormuz: is the 36-mile wide channel—an important route for international traffic between the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman. It was in the news in October 1980, when a naval task force of 60 warships from the United States, France and Australia assembled in the Indian Ocean—Arabian Gulf area—to neutralise any attempt by the Iranian navy and air force to block shipping in the *Strait of Hormuz*.

In the geographical sense, a strait is a narrow stretch of the seas separating two land areas and linking two portions of the seas or a gulf with the high seas.

Under customary international law, both merchant ships and warships have, unless otherwise prescribed by a treaty, a right of free passage "through straits used for international navigation between two parts of the high seas without the previous authorization of a coastal state, provided that the passage is innocent."

The Times magazine reported on Oct. 21, 1980, that the U.S. was prepared to keep the *Strait of Hormuz* open by force if Iran attempted to carry out its threat of closing it to shipping.

"The 36-mile-wide channel has been the life-line for some 40% of the non-Communist world's total oil supply", Time wrote.

Tuvalu: is the tiny British South Pacific dependency which achieved independence on October 1, 1979. The 8,000 Polynesians of this chain of nine coral islands and scores of atolls totalling only 25 sq. km. hope to boost their meagre incomes by leasing fishing rights to the U.S.A. and other nations.

Vanuatu: The New Hebrides Islands, the South Sea archipelago, was in the news when on July 29, 1980, it became the independent nation of Vanuatu after 74 years of joint colonial rule by France and Britain.

Father Walter Lini was sworn in Prime Minister.

The new nation, however, faces an uncertain and troubled future be-

cause of continuing resistance by secessionist rebels on the island of Espiritu Santo who have threatened to fight the new Government.

Zimbabwe is the new name for Rhodesia, Britain's last African colony, which achieved independence on April 18, 1980. The new nation's name, Zimbabwe, stems from an ancient gold-rich African kingdom that flourished in the region a thousand years ago.

Rhodesia was named after Cecil John Rhodes, the British explorer-entrepreneur who annexed the landlocked territory for Queen Victoria.

Zimbabwe was admitted as the 153rd member of the U.N.O. on August 26, 1980.

PROJECTS

Chukha Power Project. It is Rs. 143-crore India-assisted massive hydel project on the Wangchu river in Bhutan at an altitude of 7000 feet located in a gorge about 100 km. from the Indo-Bhutan border town of Phuntoshing on the national highway to Thimpu.

Bhutan is poised to enter an era of prosperity by mid-80s when about 336 mw of power starts generating in the first stage.

The project envisages construction of 40-metre high gravity dam across the river at a gorge by diverting the waters into a head racetrack tunnel.

Devighat Hydro-electric Project. India and Nepal will soon finalise an agreement for the execution of the Devighat Hydro-electric Project in Nepal. The project is a tailrace development of the existing Trishuli hydroelectric project constructed under the India-Aid Programme.

The Devighat project, which will be operated on a turnkey basis, will be fully financed by India through a Rs. 30 crore grant. The project will meet the power needs of the Kathmandu valley with an installed capacity in the ultimate stage of 10,400 k.w. generating 87 million units of power annually.

"Garland Canal" Plan The plan initiated by Capt Dastur envisages a 1,500-mile long and 400-ft wide canal garlanding the southern slopes of the Himalayan region, and central and southern garland canals encircling peninsular India. The canals would be 11,000 km long, and there would be 300 integrated lakes, all together providing a national water grid.

Kudremukh Iron Ore Project The Rs. 650-crore Kudremukh project, described in the mining world as the greatest single experiment in enriching low grade ore through use of sophisticated technology, and supplying it in

the form of concentrate of 66.5 per cent purity, is an engineering marvel built on top of 1800-metre high hills.

Nhava Sheva Port: Nhava Sheva has been finally identified as the "preferred site" for locating a major port on the West Coast of Bombay. The project is likely to cost Rs. 180 crore. When Nhava Sheva comes through, it will be the first major investment in years on port development on the West Coast.

Project Tiger: The Union Government has reconstituted the Steering Committee of Project Tiger with Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi as the Chairman. She is also the Chairman of the Indian Board of Wildlife.

Project Tiger was launched on April 1, 1973, following the decision to save the tiger from extinction taken at the meeting here of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) in December 1969. Mrs Gandhi thus assumes chairmanship of the project which she had helped launch.

The Project Tiger started with nine tiger reserves in the country with an estimated population of 262 in 1972. Seven years later, and with two more reserves, the tiger population in these preserves has gone upto 711 (1979 census).

The reserves under the Project are: Manas (Assam), Palamu (Bihar), Simlipal (Orissa), Corbett (Uttar Pradesh), Ranthambore and Sariska (Rajasthan), Kanha (Madhya Pradesh), Melghat (Maharashtra), Bandipur (Karnataka), Sunderbans (West Bengal), and Periyar (Kerala).

Rajghat Dam: The Rs. 123-crore Rajghat Dam project is a joint venture by U.P. and Madhya Pradesh. The project is to utilise the waters of the Betwa and is being constructed across on the borders of Lalitpur (U.P.) and Guna (M.P.) districts, about 48 km. upstream of Matauli.

Partial benefit from the project will start occurring in 1983; the entire project is likely to be completed by 1985.

Salal Project: The Salal hydroelectric project in Jammu and Kashmir, the largest hydel project under construction in the Central Sector, is now expected to be commissioned by 1985-86.

The Rs. 229.33-crore project over the Chenab river was earlier taken up for execution in the Central Sector in 1970 and was scheduled to be commissioned in 1976. But procedural problems delayed it and ultimately the Government decided to hand it over to NHPC (National Hydro-

electric Power Corporation) for execution.

Silent Valley Project: This project was intended to produce 120 mw electricity and irrigate some areas at the cost of destroying the sub-continent's only patch of tropical rain forest in Kerala.

The Union Government has formally asked Kerala to abandon the controversial Silent Valley hydroelectric Project after a series of protests from environmentalists, scientists, international organisations and the Central Government's department of science and technology against the project's worthlessness, as it were to destroy vital forest areas.

Srisailam Multipurpose Project: It is a massive power project, 110 km. away from Nagarjunasagar in the upper reaches of the Krishna. It is part of integration development of water resources in the State. The Krishna, flowing through a narrow and steep gorge, has provided an ideal site for the project.

Second Steel Plant in Orissa The Union Cabinet agreed in principle on October 14, to locate a shore-based steel plant at Paradeep, in Orissa.

The project, estimated to cost between Rs. 2,000 crores to Rs. 2,500 crores, will provide the state with a second steel plant, Rourkela being the first.

SPACE RESEARCH

Decade of Space Satellites: The eighties "will probably go down as one of the most significant decades of Indian efforts in space", according to the annual report of the Department of Space for 1979-80 released on July 8.

The basis of this confidence is the progress of the satellite programme and the success of the three-stage rocket SLV-3 launched in 1980 which carried Rohini satellite into near earth orbit.

A number of satellites are scheduled to be launched during this decade though in many of them the launcher vehicle will be obtained from abroad. These include Rohini satellites, APPLE, SEO-II, INSAT-I, IRS, proto-INSAT and finally the completely indigenous INSAT type operational satellites.

The report claims that the satellites would open a new era in mass communications remote sensing and meteorological observations which will contribute to many national efforts and promote all round socio-economic growth.

Bhaskara-I The Bhaskara satellite launched in 1979 is now successfully completing all its mission goals.

The TV camera on the satellite had failed to function earlier.

The Indian Space Research Organisation, which is in charge of the satellite programme, conducted a number of simulation exercises on the proto-type model of Bhaskara to find out why the camera had failed.

The fault was ultimately located in a high-voltage arcing in the converter of the TV camera. When that fault was corrected on May 16, 1980, the camera began to function, giving extremely useful pictures of quality comparable to pictures from the meteorological satellites of the U.S.

The ISRO is expecting TV pictures of the whole sub-continent as the satellite's path drifts westward. Bhaskara is expected to work for a full 12 months more. Meanwhile, its microwave radio-meters have provided highly useful data in meteorological and certain ocean-related studies.

Bhaskara-II: Bhaskara-II satellite for earth observation is expected to be launched in 1981. Bhaskara-II envisages the use of a refurbished proto-type of Bhaskara-I and will have a narrower spectral band width for its TV system. The sanctioned cost of the project is Rs 140 crore with a foreign exchange component of Rs. 75 lakh.

The new development in Bhaskara-II, compared to Bhaskara-I, is the incorporation of a new microwave radiometer channel.

The satellite will be launched from a Soviet cosmodrome.

INSAT (Indian National Satellite): It is a multipurpose satellite expected to be launched by India in early 1981. It will greatly enhance the meteorologist's capability to forecast floods and cyclones.

Besides getting cloud pictures every half an hour as against twice in 24 hours at present, the weatherman will also have at his disposal vital meteorological data from remote and unaccessible areas hitherto not covered by the observational network.

The meteorological payload of this multipurpose satellite comprises a high-resolution radiometer to transmit cloud pictures over one-third of the globe, every half an hour. It is also equipped with a special transponder for collecting information from unmanned data collection platforms to be installed in remote areas.

The INSAT will thus be useful in the field of tele-communications, meteorological earth observation and the data relay, and direct TV-broadcasting to augmented community receivers in rural areas as well as for

radio and TV programme distribution.

Ariane: The Union Government has finalized plans for launching of the *Ariane Passenger Payload Experiment* by the Indian Space Research Organisation.

This satellite was to be launched from Kourou in French Guyana by the European Space Agency by the end of 1980.

SLV-3: The second experimental launching of India's first Satellite Launch Vehicle, SLV-3, was successfully carried out from the Sriharikota launch complex of the Indian Space Research Organization on July 18, 1980.

India's first Satellite Launch Vehicle SLV-3 is a four-stage solid propellant rocket, 22.7 metres long with a take-off weight of 17 tonnes.

The launch vehicle (SLV-3) fabricated at the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, Trivandrum, carried a 40 kg. *Rohini* satellite (R.S.-1) into a near-earth orbit.

The first experimental launch on SLV-3 took place on August 10, 1979, but a malfunction in the reaction control system in the second stage caused it to deviate from course.

Corrective action had been taken to remove the fault in the vehicle for the second experimental launch.

As per report released on October 26, 1980, *Rohini*, which completed 100 days in space, was doing well. It had by that date circled the earth nearly 1,500 times, completing one orbit every 97 minutes, and was still sending powerful signals.

All systems on board were functioning perfectly, and the present indications were that the satellite would remain in orbit for one and a half years. It was planned to last only three months.

The main objective of the S.L.V.-3 project was to gain experience in the design, development and launching of vehicles capable of placing scientific and experimental satellites in near earth orbits.

New Space endurance record set: Two Soviet spacemen, Valery Ryumin and Leonid Popov, set a new world space endurance record on October 2, 1980, after passing the old mark of 175 days and 36 minutes set in 1979 by Valery Ryumin and his previous mission commander, Vladimir Lyakhov on board *Salyut-6*.

The two cosmonauts, who were launched on April 9, 1980 have been living and working since they have been aboard the 15-metre long *Salyut-6* space station. They spent 185 days

there, the longest space flight in the history of cosmonauts.

Soyuz-37: On July 24, 1980, Russia launched Soyuz-37 spacecraft with a Soviet commander Victor Gorbatko and a Vietnamese scientist Pham Tuan aboard to link up with an orbiting Soviet Space train. Soyuz-37 linked up with the orbiting space train composed of the *Salyut-6* space station and the *Soyuz-36* spacecraft which had cosmonauts Leonid Popov and Valery Ryumin aboard. They conducted numerous experiments prepared by specialists from the two countries. After a week-long space mission, both the cosmonauts of *Soyuz-37* landed back safely in Central Asia.

Cosmonauts from Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Poland, Bulgaria, Hungary and Cuba have made space flights under the Soviet intercosmos programme, but Colonel Pham was the first man from the Third World to make a space trip. Mongolian and Romanian cosmonauts are believed to be in training for further trips.

Meteor-2: is a weather (or meteorological) satellite of the earth launched by the Soviet Union recently.

Meteor-2 carries complex apparatus to obtain global images of cloud-cover and the underlying surface in the visible and infra-red areas of the spectrum both in the memorising mode and in the direct transmission mode.

The satellite is also equipped with radiometry apparatus for continuous observations of penetrating radiation fluxes in the near-earth space.

The satellite's initial orbital period is 102.4 minutes, with a maximum distance from the earth's surface—906 km.

Voyager-1 enters realm of Saturn: Voyager-1, extending man's eyes over nearly two billion kilometres of space, entered the exotic realm of Saturn on November 12, as it pierced the boundary of the giant golden planet's magnetic field.

The spacecraft had to glide above the plane of the rings, through an area believed to be free of the debris and ice that form the rings. But there was the possibility that it might hit something.

The spacecraft was also affected by the strong gravitational pull of the giant moon Titan, which altered its course.

The enigma of the moons continued to dominate much of the scientists' efforts. Analysis of the pictures showed that the moons appeared to have been formed by different processes, none of them conforming to

the widely held theories. Some of the moons were solid rock, some were huge ice balls.

When Voyager-I leaves the sixth planet, it will head out of the solar system to begin an endless journey among the stars.

In case any extraterrestrial beings come across the wandering spacecraft, there's a gold-plated record with greetings from earth mounted on Voyager-I. The record, called "Sounds of Earth", includes animal noises, rock and folk music and a message from U.S. President Jimmy Carter that bears "greetings from..... a small, distant planet".

Viking I spacecraft ends mission: The U.S. Viking-I orbiter spacecraft has run out of fuel and can no longer contact earth as it begins its 75-year tumble toward the surface of Mars. It thus ended "the most exciting decade in the history of space exploration" as reported by scientists on August 9, 1980.

With the 2,330 kg. spacecraft almost out of steering power which has kept it in orbit around Mars for four years, the Ground Control Centre in Pasadena, California, sent up a command to shut off the spacecraft's radio transmitter.

On July 20, 1976, a machine which Viking had landed on the surface of Mars sent back, line by line, the first sensational close-up pictures of the red, rocky and arid landscape of the planet.

The pictures were relayed up to Viking from the lander machine and then sent down to earth by the more powerful transmitter on the spacecraft.

With its tanks out of gas, the spacecraft is expected to tumble around in the Martian sky out of control.

But its lander vehicle which is still resting on the rocky northern hemisphere Martian plains which it photographed is still working and will send back intermittent weather reports from its own transmitter.

U.N.O.

153rd U.N. Member: Zimbabwe (formerly Rhodesia) was admitted as the 153rd member of the U.N.O. on August 26, 1980.

The application for U.N. Membership of the island nation of *St Vincent and Grenadines*, which had become a fully independent state on Oct. 27, 1979, was approved by the Security Council on February 5, 1980. The Security Council unanimously recommended for admission of St Vincent and Grenadines as a member of the U.N.O.

Important to Remember

Abolhassan Bani-Sadr: President of Iran.

Gen Chon Doo-hwan: President of South Korea.

Shaikh Jaber al-Ahmed al-Jabbar al-Sabah: The Amir of Kuwait.

Kenneth Kaunda: President of Zambia.

Sypros Kyprianou: President of Cyprus.

Quett Masire: President of Botswana.

Nikolai Tikhonov: Prime Minister of the U.S.S.R.

Zhao Ziyang: Prime Minister of China.

Zenko Suzuki: Prime Minister of Japan.

Veselin Djuramovic: Prime Minister of Yugoslavia.

Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam: Prime Minister of Mauritius.

(Miss) *Mary Eugenia Charles:* Prime Minister of Dominica.

Shafic Wazzan: Prime Minister of Lebanon.

Mohammad Ali Rajai: Prime Minister of Iran.

Masayoshi Ito: Foreign Minister of Japan.

Kedar Pandey: Railway Minister in the Union Cabinet of India.

Air Chief Marshal O.P. Mehra (Retd): Governor of Maharashtra.

Sadiq Ali: Governor of Tamil Nadu.

T. Anjiah: Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh.

Gurdial Singh Dhillon: High Commissioner of India to Canada.

V.K. Ahuja: India's Ambassador to the U.S.S.R.

K.R. Narayanan: India's Ambassador to the U.S.A.

Dr Ali Mohammad Khushro: India's Ambassador to West Germany.

Dr Sayid Mohammed: India's High Commissioner to U.K.

K.K. Hebbar: Chairman of the Lalit Kala Akademi.

Ruediger Von Wechmar: of West Germany is President of the 35th session of the U.N. General Assembly.

S.K. Misra: Chairman of the India Tourism Development Corporation.

Prakash Tandon: President of the National Council of Applied Economics and Research (N.C.A.E.R.).

Juan Antonio Samaranch: of Spain, is President of the International Olympic Committee (I.O.C.). He succeeded Lord Killanin of Ireland.

Important Dates & Events 1980

JANUARY

3—General Elections held for the Seventh Lok Sabha; Congress (I) comes to power with two-thirds majority.

14—Mrs Indira Gandhi sworn in as Prime Minister.

26—National Awards revived; Mother Teresa awarded Bharat Ratna.

FEBRUARY

17—Nine State Assemblies—U.P., Bihar, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Orissa, Gujarat and Maharashtra—dissolved.

MARCH

7—Jagjivan Ram quits the Janata Party.

APRIL

6—Bharatiya Janata Party born.

15—Six more commercial banks nationalised.

18—Rhodesia achieves independence and named "Zimbabwe".

JUNE

2—Congress (I) swept to power in eight of the 9 States as a result of Assembly elections; AIADMK gets absolute majority in Tamil Nadu.

10—President's Rule extended in Assam.

23—Sanjay Gandhi dies in air-crash in New Delhi.

24—Death of V.V. Giri, former President of India.

JULY

7—India recognises pro-Vietnam Government of Kampuchea.

18—India successfully launches SLV-3 into space carrying Rohini satellite into near earth orbit.

SEPTEMBER

22—National Security Ordinance promulgated.

23—Undeclared war starts between Iraq and Iran.

OCTOBER

14—Maruti Limited taken over by the Government.

NOVEMBER

5—Ronald Reagan, the Republican candidate, wins Presidential election in the U.S.A.

14—Nehru Award presented to Nelson R. Mandela, the South African leader.

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